Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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POLL RESULTS

Did you stock up on emergency supplies to prepare for Typhoon Melor?

Yes-**81**

No-**49**

Sunday, October 11, 2009

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of October 9, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Policy End

President Barack Obama reaffirmed his campaign pledge to end the ban on homosexuals serving openly in the military in a speech Saturday, but offered no timetable or specifics for acting on that promise.

Nation...Page 14

Aye Carumba

Marge Simpson has done something that Homer might not like but will make Bart the proudest kid in his school: She's posed for Playboy magazine.

Life & Style...Page 21

Public Lands admits error in Marpi land clearing project

Plan to address loss of Megapode conservation area in works

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Department of Public Lands are now working closely to come up with a remediation plan to address the loss of some of the conservation area for the endangered bird species Micronesian Megapode, that was caused by the Marpi land clearing project.

This developed as DPL acknowledged the error in clearing portions of 62 hectares of lands in Marpi and reserved 17.6 hectares of land with native limestone forest that will be set aside for perpetuity as Micronesian Megapode conservation area. Limestone forest is a preferred habitat for the Micronesian Megapode.

See MARPI on Page 4

Senate adopts 68-page report on substitute budget bill

$15.3M shortfall without austerity measures in FY 2010

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Senate unanimously adopted a Fiscal Affairs Committee report recommending the adoption of a substitute Fiscal Year 2010 budget bill that calls for austerity measures to avoid over $15.3 million in shortfall, sustain the employment of 3,556 full-time employees, and maintain basic public services, instead of recommending passage of the budget measure passed by the House of Representatives on Sept. 22.

"In order to maintain basic public services by preserving operational costs to the greatest extent possible, the FY 2010 budget must fund only

See SENATE on Page 4

Tsunamis hit American Samoa's economic engine

AUDREY McAVOY
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa (AP)—The tsunami that killed nearly 200 people in the Samoas also dealt a vicious blow to the already sputtering enne of the American Samoa economy: tuna canneries.

See SAMOA on Page 4

AP

Motu Selevae, left, and Fotu Matoka, right, both employees of COS Samoa Packing discuss the closing of the plant Sunday Oct. 4, 2009.

Fitial: CNMI must always remain culturally distinct

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Even as the CNMI enjoys its rich cultural diversity that comes from the islands being a melting pot of people, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial reminded locals about the need to maintain their indigenous culture and traditions.

Speaking at the opening of the 17th Cultural Heritage Month celebration in Chamolinian Cultural Village, Fitial said it is vital that local people preserve their indigenous culture and traditions which has made Commonwealth unique.

See FITIAL on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Cherry Camigla of Islands Arts and Crafts sells Bojobo wishing dolls at the Cultural Heritage Month festivities held at the Chamolinian Vilage in Garapan on Friday. The four-day cultural presentation and arts and crafts sale will wrap up today.

Camacho reinstates EFC Engineers & Architects. **PAGE 2**

Chief engineer charged over discharge of untreated oil waste. **PAGE 3**

Local

TREE PLANTING
CNMI Boy Scouts pose with Angelo Villagomez of Beautify CNMI after this weekend's planting of 26 Flame Trees in Koblerville.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Camacho reinstates EFC Engineers & Architects

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Efrain F. Camacho, the former Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director and staff engineer, last Friday reinstated his firm EFC Engineers & Architects Corp. which he placed in inactive status after assuming the ports authority's top position last year.

In an announcement, the company stated with the return of Camacho, EFC company will resume its function of providing quality engineering and architectural services to the community.

EFC Engineers & Architects specializes in areas of engineering feasibility studies, planning, project management, and construction inspection for quality and compliance assurance.

For the past 20 years, the company has also been known for providing quality construction management and capability to handle and manage capital improvement projects.

The company also serves as engineering consultant to government agencies and private businesses. Its office is at Marina Heights Business Park, Bank of Hawaii Building, Suite 206.

Camacho was hired by CPA in November 2008 with an annual salary of $70,000 as executive director and the agency's staff engineer. His decision to suspend operation of his business was a result of the "conflict of interest" raised during his appointment because EFC Engineers & Architects handles several projects of the ports authority.

But last Oct. 2, he tendered his resignation citing the "micromanagement" of board member Benigno Sablan, who later defended and denied Camacho's allegation.

Though threat of a lawsuit against Camacho was brought up as a result of him not giving the board ample time to look for his replacement, the board decided to let him go in recognition of his diligent work to the ports authority.

Saipan Tribune learned that one of the notable moves initiated by the Camacho was the pleading he made to the staff and management to take ownership of their property. He was also credited in pursuing the completion of long-delayed baggage handling system at the airport, aggressive collections, and internal cost-saving measures for the agency.

MaryAnn Q. Lizama, the Saipan port manager, was named acting executive director by the board.

Ex-convict nabbed for allegedly violating probation by using 'ice'

The U.S. government has moved to revoke the supervised release of an ex-convict who allegedly violated his probation by admitting, among other conditions, using methamphetamine or "ice."

Federal agents arrested Jeffrey Indalecio Celis and brought him to U.S. District Court for the NMI for a revocation hearing on Friday afternoon.

U.S. District Court designated judge David A. Wiseman issued last week an arrest warrant for the 39-year-old Celis after the U.S. government moved to revoke his supervised release.

U.S. Probation Officer Melinda N. Brunson stated in her report that on Sept. 7, 1999, Celis was sentenced in federal court for the offense of felon in possession of a firearm.

Celis was sentenced to 120 months and placed on three years of supervised release.

Brunson said that on March 25, 2009 Celis's conditions were modified to include that he submit to no more than eight drug tests per month.

Brunson said that on Aug. 3, 2009, after admitting to "ice" use on two occasions, Celis' conditions were modified to include that he complete an additional 50 hours of community work service.

The probation officer said that, on Aug. 5, 2009, the defendant allegedly committed the offense of assault with a dangerous weapon when he attacked Carlos Marcelino with a large knife in Koblerville.

Celis was arrested in that case on Aug. 22, 2009. He, however, posted bail on Sept. 10, 2009.

Brunson said that, on Sept. 23, 2009, Celis failed to report to the U.S. Probation Office for drug testing.

Brunson said, that, on Sept. 28, 2009, Celis reported to the U.S. Probation Office and admitted to drug use on Sept. 23 and 25.

The ex-convict said for using "ice" he had been awake for six straight days.

Celis reported to the U.S. Probation Office on Sept. 30, 2009 and submitted to a drug test.

Brunson said the drug test found Celis positive for using "ice" and marijuana.

Bruson said Celis was also a suspect in a recent robbery case.

Celis was convicted of three cases of burglary, and one case of robbery from 1995 to 1997. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Chief engineer charged over discharge of untreated oil waste

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. government on Friday charged a former chief engineer of a vessel for discharging approximately 370 tons of untreated oily bilge waste overboard from a ship.

John Wylie Davis, also known as Jack Davis, is being charged with false statement and failure to maintain an Oil Record Book (ORB).

The U.S. government alleged that Davis did not record the overboard discharge in the ORB of the vessel, SS *Major Stephen W. Pless*.

Instead, the defendant allegedly made and signed a notation in the ORB, dated Jan. 7, 2008, which indicated only that the vessel's system had been put into the automatic mode of operation to allow the overboard discharge of waste at 15ppm.

According to court papers, SS *Major Stephen W. Pless* (SS *Pless*) was a non-tanker vessel of over 400 gross tons registered under the flag of the U.S. and certified for ocean-going service.

SS *Pless* was owned by Waterman Steamanship Corp., a Delaware corporation. Waterman was responsible for ensuring that the ship was operated in compliance with the environmental laws and regulations of the U.S. and with applicable international treaties governing discharges of pollutants from ships.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Beverly R. McCallum stated in the charging information that, large marine vessels such as SS *Pless* produce waste oil as a result of the operation of machinery in the engine room.

McCallum said some of this waste oil, along with water and other liquids, accumulates in the bottom or "bilges" of the vessel.

Such bilge water, the prosecutor said, is routinely collected and stored in onboard tanks.

"Once properly treated until it has an oil content of 15 or fewer ppm, such bilge waste may be lawfully discharged overboard," McCallum explained.

However, she said, U.S. registered vessels certificated for ocean-going service, such as SS *Pless* are prohibited by both MARPOL and APPS from discharging oily waste that has not been treated using an oily water separator or other pollution prevention equipment into the ocean at any time and in any location.

MARPOL is the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, as modified by the Protocol of 1978. APPS refers to Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships.

McCallum said that, from Jan. 7, 2008 until on Jan. 15, 2008, Davis was employed as chief engineer of the SS *Pless* by Waterman, through its management company, LMS Shipmanagement Inc., a Louisiana corp.

Davis was responsible for ensuring that the vessel's machinery was functioning properly. He was also responsible for assuring that liquid waste generated by the vessel, such as oily waste, was properly handled.

As chief engineer, McCallum said, the defendant had overall responsibility for engine room operations and personally maintained the vessel's ORB.

On Jan. 7, 2008 the SS *Pless* left Korea on a trip to Saipan.

At that time, the prosecutor said, Davis was aware that the vessel's oily water separator equipment was malfunctioning.

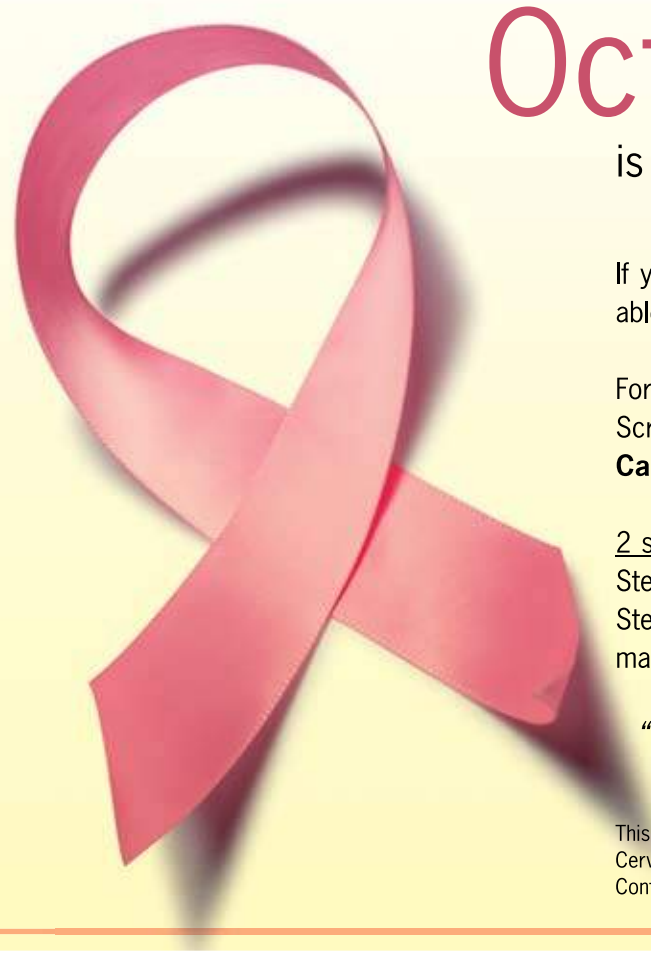
Also at that time, McCallum said, the defendant was aware that two of the onboard bilge-water storage tanks and an oily waste tank were filled to near capacity with oily bilge waste.

McCallum said that, on Jan. 7, 2008 Davis discharged 370 tons of oily bilge waste overboard from the SS *Pless*, without treating it with the oily water separator until it contained no more than the allowable ppm of oil.

In fact, the U.S. government lawyer said, Davis knew that on that date the vessel's pollution control equipment was still malfunctioning.

On Jan. 15, 2008, McCallum said, Davis transferred his duties as chief engineer to another person.

Beginning Jan. 15, 2008, the U.S. Coast Guard conducted inspections of the U.S. *Pless* during which Capt. Joseph Souza presented the vessel's false ORB to a U.S. Coast Guard officer in the port of Saipan.



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SAMOA

From Page 1

The U.S. territory has long been home to Chicken of the Sea and Starkist plants that make more than half the canned tuna consumed in the U.S., filling American grocery store shelves with millions of cylindrical cans used for tuna sandwiches and salads.

Even before 10-foot (three-meter) high tsunamis roared ashore Sept. 29, the territory had been bracing for the closure of the Chicken of the Sea facility, which meant nearly 2,000 people would lose their jobs. Thanks to the tsunamis, the end effectively came a day earlier than scheduled.

The cannery run by StarKist Co. lost power in the tsunami and isn't expected to return to full production for another month or so.

The canneries directly and indirectly make up about 80 percent of all economic activity in American Samoa, a remote Pacific island territory of 65,000 people about a five-hour plane ride from Hawaii.

"It's like we've been hit by an earthquake, a tsunami, and a cyclone all at once," said Gov. Togiola Tulafono, who added that the shutdowns will ripple through the economy as newly unemployed and idle workers won't have as much money to spend.

"When the cannery shuts down, a whole lot of other things shut down. We need to get that company back up and working," Tulafono said.

The industry was in trouble even before the disaster because of a 2007 federal law mandating that the same minimum wage laws that apply to the 50 states be enforced in the territory. The law is gradually hiking the minimum wage for American Samoa 50 cents a year until it reaches $7.25 — the same standard as the rest of the country.

The law has boosted labor costs for the canneries by more than 30 percent, even as they compete with canneries in countries like Thailand and Vietnam where the hourly wage is less than $1.

Cannery workers in the territory now earn an average of $5.11 an hour.

Chicken of the Sea chose to shut down and move its canning to a leaner facility in Georgia.

StarKist laid off about 350 hourly and salaried workers. But it has chosen to stay and lobby for a new bill now before Congress that would provide U.S. fishing fleets with incentives to sell their fish in American Samoa. The bill would also pay subsidies to processors, like StarKist, in the U.S. territory.

"It allows American Samoa to be globally competitive again," said Don Binotto, president of StarKist Co. "If that is passed, frankly, we see American Samoa as a place where we can continue to do business long term."

The two plants sit right next to each other in long, white rectangular buildings along a narrow waterfront in Pago Pago Harbor's small industrial zone.

The tsunamis largely spared both plants even though they destroyed dozens of buildings across the harbor. They did, however, drown the power plant that feeds electricity to StarKist, knocking the plant out of service.

To cope, StarKist is shipping 10 generators to Pago Pago from Los Angeles that will supply the plant with electricity until the local power plant is rebuilt. The plant should be fully operational by the sixth or seventh week after the tsunami, said Binotto, who flew into American Samoa a few days after the tsunami to assess the damage.

In the meantime, StarKist is storing 4,000 tons, or $13 million worth of tuna, in freezers run on generators.

StarKist says the disruption to production won't affect the supply of tuna on store shelves. The company has an eight-week supply already in the U.S. and a few more weeks worth currently in containers heading for the U.S.

The tsunami has meant a double disaster for StarKist employees like Fuauli Atisano'e.

The tsunamis wrecked the 38-year-old's home, as well as his parents' home next door, in the small coastal village of Tula. Their concrete walls are standing, but their floors are caked with silt and their windows are blown out.

A water-logged coconut, metal mattress frame and sewing machine are strewn around one of their rooms.

FITIAL

From Page 1

"The CNMI must always remain culturally distinct, with a clear identity of its own, with a clear understanding of who we are and where we came from, no matter what we encounter in our increasingly modern, homogenized, blended or culturally blurred world," he said.

Fitial also emphasized the importance of keeping the "Hafa Adai" spirit alive in a world of competing cultural influences made more potent by powerful media technologies.

Fitial said the commemoration of Cultural Heritage Month affirms the local people's strong sense of identity and distinct culture.

"The CNMI today is a blend of many different cultures and races... We are either a salad or a sort of melting pot, so to speak. We are diverse. We are mixed. But with all of our vibrant cultures, and with all of the diverse people that enjoy our home, we must be sure to continue to value our indigenous arts, languages, cultures, and traditions. We must always remember where we came from," he added.

During the four-day celebration at the Chamolinian Village, Carolinian Affairs Office executive director Anggie Mangarero said all will be treated to various competitions, presentations, and demonstrations—all for the enhancement and preservation of the indigenous culture and languages.

Last Friday, a speech competition in the vernacular among local students was also held. A challenge bowl was conducted last Saturday, while a special fishing demonstration was conducted by the Carolinian Affairs Office with the assistance of the Department of Land and Natural Resources last Sunday.

Today, as the CNMI celebrates its cultural day, guests at the village will be treated to a bevy of special cultural dances and songs by various groups and students. Food and non-food vendors will also ply their trade at the village.

Mangarero lauded the assistance provided by the governor's office and Department of Community and Cultural Affairs in this year's staging of Cultural Heritage Month.

Mangarero said the government must intensify and aggressively work on improving the use of Chamorro and Carolinian languages in the CNMI.

Through the Public School System's Chamorro/Carolinian Heritage Language Studies curriculum, Mangarero said she is optimistic that children will be taught the importance of keeping the tradition.

"Many of our children are not speaking the language anymore and we're very concerned. This must serve as a wakeup call for us, leaders of the community should be aware that our culture, especially our language, is fading away," she said.

SENATE

From Page 1

actual employment, adjusted by austerity measures," Standing Committee Report 16-7 said.

A draft of the Senate substitute bill is now being worked on, Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Frica Pangelinan (D-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune*.

Among other things, the Senate substitute bill will include 52 payless holidays or the every other Friday austerity holidays modeled after Public Law 15-24.

Pangelinan said if austerity measures are not implemented, the budget shortfall for FY 2010 will be $15,346,557.

If the payless holidays are implemented, the shortfall would only be $7,569,458.

Without the 52-day austerity, however, the government can cut all costs by about 10 percent, take $15 million from the operational costs, or order a reduction in force, Pangelinan said.

But Pangelinan and Senate Floor Leader Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) separately said the austerity measures that need to be implemented should be decided by the committee members.

The bill by Pangelinan's committee does not change the House bill's identified budgetary resources of $162.820 million.

HB 16-275, HD2 pegs the appropriations at $150,288,886, while the Senate committee bill, at $154,418,886.

Full-time employees

The 68-page Standing Committee Report 16-7 caps the number of full-time employees at 3,556, which is lower than the 3,915 set by House Bill16-275, HD2.

The difference of 359 includes 221 vacant and unfunded FTEs held by the Public School System.

The House budget bill's FTE level does not include that of the Department of Public Lands.

SCR 16-7 said an Office of Personnel Management report also revealed actual employment at DPL as 55, and not 62 funded in H.B. 16-275, HD2.

"Actual employment levels cannot be sustained in FY 2010 without the implementation of austerity measures. Actual employment levels in FY 209 were not sustained, as the drop between the two years illustrate," SCR 16-74 said.

The committee report also said that the austerity measures as proposed in the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee bill "free up dollars to maintain the government's ability to continue providing basic services."

The report cited as an example the Medical Referral business unit's need for more operational funds.

"While searching for cost savings is important, off-island referrals to take advantage of lifesaving medical procedures not available in the CNMI cannot cease, and accommodation for those costs must be made until better alternatives are found," it said.

The Senate committee said HB 16-275, HD2 directs expenditure authorities to stay within the limits of their appropriations.

"Historical data shows in many instances that this is not occurring. Austerity measures are a way to uniformly implement cutbacks in personnel expenditures. They create a procedure that agency and department heads can follow, rather than each having to make difficult decisions regarding how and where o cut their personnel costs," it said.

Reserve account

The Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee bill holds in a reserve account a reduction of $1.69 million to general fund resources that the court order sends to the Defined Benefit Plan via un-unsuspending earmarked funds, and the reported drop in Compact Impact funds.

The reserve account also adds $295,000 from the Marianas Public Lands Trust that the government does not owe the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. via Public Law 17-7 in FY 2010, the balance due being $1.405 million, not the $1.7 million reported in House Committee Report 16-4.

A reserve has also been established to appropriate reductions across non-critical business units in a total amount that equals the anticipated shortfalls.

The Senate committee said it met five objectives that included not changing the governor's un-amended revenue estimates, mandating where the resources are to be allocated, and maintaining control over the appropriations process in advance of changes in revenues.

The Senate is expected to hold a session this week to tackle the budget bill, among other things.

In the House budget bill for FY 2010 introduced by House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan), there are no salary cuts but non-personnel costs are reduced by $9.7 million in lieu of austerity compared to FY 2009 non-personnel spending.

House Bill 16-275 also pumps money into paying the government's $231 million deficient employer contribution to the Retirement Fund, as ordered by a June 29 Superior Court ruling.

Yumul's bill reflected non-personnel cost of $40,610,207 in 2010, compared to $50,364,792 in the 2009 budget law, Public Law 16-32. Utilities cost alone is cut by 19 percent or $1.7 million, from $8,953,902 to $7,253,901.

The total 2010 cost, inclusive of personnel, non-personnel and utilities, is proposed at $150,288,886, compared to $156,755,914 in the current fiscal year.

MARPI

From Page 1

Pankaj Arora of the Brownfields Program USEPA-Region 9, recently informed Rep. Tina Sablan about the remediation plan.

Arora said for the Marpi unexploded ordnances (UXOs) removal project, DPL was to set aside around eight acres as conservation area for the Micronesian Megapode, but inadvertently some of the conservation area was cleared.

"We turned the potential not so good situation into a good situation for the Micronesian Megapode," Arora told Sablan in a letter.

Arora said DPL has agreed to protect about 40 additional acres on the pristine limestone forest.

"This additional land will be protected for perpetuity. The 40 acres are in addition to about eight acres DPL had agreed to conserve and eight acres will also be preserved for perpetuity too," Arora said.

Sablan said although it is very unfortunate that the Megapode habitat has been inadvertently cleared, it is welcome news that DPL has acknowledged the error and has committed to restoring the affected area and to protecting an even larger area of forest habitat in perpetuity, as part of the remediation plan.

"Marpi is one of the most beautiful, most historically-rich, and most environmentally-sensitive places on Saipan, and there is great public interest in ensuring transparency and public involvement in any kind of development that would take place there," said Sablan in her response to Arora.

DPL Project Manager Franz Reksid offered to Arora on Aug. 25, 2009 a remediation plan to restore lost habitat of the Megapode and reestablish protected areaS in the Marpi project area.

Reksid apologized for not paying close attention to the designated Megapode protected area.

Reksid said during the clearing activities by the contractor some of the area reserved for the Megapode were eventually destroyed.

He said DPL surveyors did flag corners designating reserved and protected area for the Megapode.

"Unfortunately placement of continuous flagging designating clear line isolating protected area for Megapode and identify the area allowed for clearing was not placed in the correct location. As a result some land below the coral bed road was cleared," Reksid said.

The project manager said they have learned from their own mistakes, which could have been avoided easily.

"We probably assumed too comfortably that the surveyors, field supervisor, and heavy equipment operators were well aware of the designated protected area and would not clear the area. Our assumption proved wrong and we take the full responsibility for the clearing below the coral bed road," he said.

DPL Secretary John S. Del Rosario Jr. also notified Arora on Sept. 10, 2009 about DPL's decision to reserve 17.6 hectares of land with native limestone forest as Micronesian Megapode conservation area.

Del Rosario said portions of 3.5 hectares that have been cleared will be reforested with native plant species.

The secretary said DPL will work with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife, and USEPA to develop a reforestation plan.

"The reforested area will also be protected for perpetuity," he added.

Prosecutors again delay Zachares' sentencing

For the eighth time since Mark Zachares' guilty plea to a felony conspiracy charge in April 2007, prosecutors have gotten approval to delay the sentencing of a former top committee aide to U.S. Rep. Don Young.

Zachares, a former Immigration secretary in the CNMI and ex-Alaskan who rose to the position of special counsel to Young when the Alaska Republican was chairman of the House Transportation Committee, is continuing to cooperate with federal authorities "in several ongoing investigations," prosecutors said in a motion filed Thursday in federal court in Washington.

"The government anticipates that Mr. Zachares' cooperation will continue for the foreseeable future," prosecutors with the Justice Department's criminal division said. As is normally the case, they provided no details.

Zachares had been scheduled to appear before U.S. District Judge Ellen S. Huvelle for a status conference on Oct. 16. But in an order filed Friday, Huvelle canceled that hearing and ordered another for Jan. 8, indefinitely forestalling Zachares' sentencing.

Under his plea deal, he faces 18 to 24 months in prison, though the judge is not bound by the agreement. The charge carries a maximum sentence of five years.

Zachares' charge arose out of the Jack Abramoff lobbying scandal that has so far led to charges against 20 people, mainly public officials and lobbyists. Abramoff is now serving a four-year prison sentence for defrauding American Indian tribe clients and corruption of public officials.

Zachares

Zachares admitted using his position in Young's committee to tip off Abramoff and his team of lobbyists to transportation projects, maritime issues and homeland-security matters.

In return, Zachares admitted, he accepted more than $30,000 in tickets to sporting events, a luxury golf trip to Scotland, and $10,000 in cash from Abramoff or his associates.

Abramoff got Zachares his job with Young around 2002, then told a fellow lobbyist that Zachares was "pulling our load inside" the committee.

Young, under investigation over unrelated matters in Alaska and Florida, was not named in Zachares' charge. But Abramoff has had several connections to Young over the years. In 2000, when Zachares was an official in the government of the Northern Mariana Islands and Abramoff was lobbying for the island government and the local garment industry, Young spiked a bill that would have imposed U.S. labor laws there.

That bill had been a pet project of a fellow Alaska Republican, then-Sen. Frank Murkowski, who said he was trying to stop near-slavery conditions in the Marianas, a U.S. territory in the Pacific. The bill didn't surface again until Abramoff was sentenced to prison. It passed Congress and was signed into law in 2008.

Starting in 1999, Indian tribes with gambling interests that were represented by Abramoff gave about $20,000 to Young's re-election efforts and his political action committee. Young's campaign used Abramoff's skybox at Washington's MCI Center for several fundraisers. And former Young aide Duane Gibson later went to work for one of Abramoff's firms.

In March, the former policy director on Young's transportation committee, Fraser Verrusio, was charged in a three-count indictment with conspiring to change a federal highway bill to benefit an Abramoff client. The charges said he accepted an illegal payment from Abramoff and associates: an expense-paid World Series trip to New York in 2003 that included a visit to a strip club, dinner at a steak joint and a night in a Manhattan hotel.

Verrusio was one of Young's first hires when he took over as chairman of the committee in 2001.

A trial date for Verrusio has not been set, but the judge in his case has ordered a status conference for Nov. 6.

Zachares and Verrusio were supervised by Young's chief of staff on the transportation committee, Lloyd Jones, a former Republican state senator from Ketchikan married to another ex-state senator, Jan Faiks, who was from Anchorage. Zachares, Verrusio and Jones -- now retired -- had nearby offices in the Rayburn House Office Building.

Young has refused to answer media questions about the federal investigations in which he's involved, and on Friday his spokeswoman said he continues to have no comment.

Public records show that since 2007 Young has spent more than $1 million from his campaign account and a legal defense fund on lawyers.

Zachares left Young's committee in 2005, the year of Young's massive transportation bill with its infamous "Bridges to Nowhere" funding for Alaska.

Since Zachares' plea, Judge Huvelle has twice allowed him to travel to Korea for business, the latest from Sept. 23 to Oct. 2. He hasn't had to publicly report what he does for a living, but his lawyer said in 2007 that he was working in sales.

Zachares' plea agreement also included a promise by the government to not charge his wife, Cynthia, in return for her cooperation. The couple have twin daughters and live in the Washington, D.C., area. ***(Anchorage Daily News)***

GovGuam scraps self-funded dental plan for fiscal year 2010

The government of Guam will not be offering a self-funded dental plan for government employees in FY2010 due to an inability to finalize a services agreement with Guardian Dental Insurance Co.

Guardian Dental Insurance was offering a stand alone dental plan to the government of Guam. Now that Guardian Dental will not be offering with GovGuam, the government has made arrangements with SelectCare Insurance Co. to allow dental enrollment into their plan.

The Department of Administration, along with SelectCare Insurance Co., will be conducting a "special" schedule for Oct. 12-16 at the Department of Administration—Human Resources Division and at SelectCare Insurance Co. SelectCare will allow GovGuam employees to enroll onto their dental plan provided they currently have medical insurance with SelectCare. For those who do not have medical insurance with SelectCare and wish to enroll in dental, they must enroll into the medical plan in order to obtain the dental. Subscribers must maintain the same class structure for both medical and dental.

The special open enrollment is strictly for those who previously enrolled in Guardian Dental. No other enrollment or changes will be allowed. Those who previously enrolled with Guardian Dental and do not complete a SelectCare enrollment form electing dental will not have dental coverage for this fiscal year.

For more information, contact Leonora Candaso at the Department of Administration at 475-1179 or 1296. ***(PR)***

Live the Fiesta Way!
What's cooking this week at Chambre BAR
Healthy Menu
Main Course
MONDAY- Mahi Mahi with Tomato Salsa
TUESDAY - Coq au Vin
WEDNESDAY - Yosenabe
THURSDAY - Broiled Chicken with Teriyaki Sauce
FRIDAY - Salmon with in Citrus Sauce
Including: Hot Vegetables, Tofu, Soup, Salad Bar & MORE....
October 12-16, 2009
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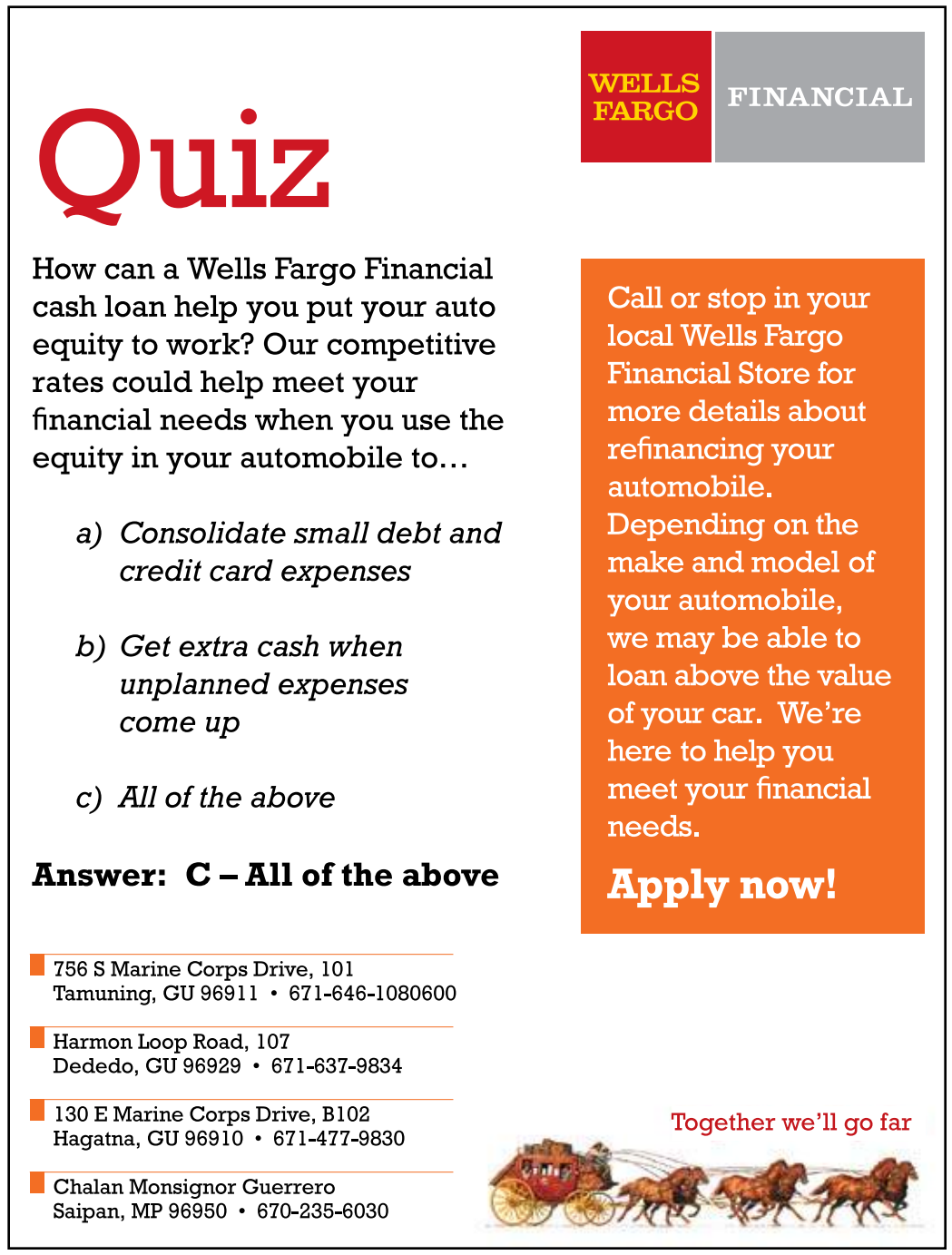
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b) Get extra cash when unplanned expenses come up
c) All of the above
Answer: C – All of the above
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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Junior students at Grace Christian Academy on Navy Hill inquire about educational and work opportunities at the Northern Marianas College booth during Friday's GCA Career Day, which also featured booths and informational materials from the Department of Public Safety, the Workforce Investment Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Marines, the American Memorial Park, the Department of Public Health, and the Division of Environmental Quality.

80 students take part in GCA career day

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Eighty students and 10 government agencies and businesses took part in Grace Christian Academy's career day held last Friday at the school's Navy Hill campus.

The event was coordinated by teachers Heather Linday and John M. Manglona and is held annually to expose GCA junior and senior students to career opportunities and higher education available on island after they graduate from high school.

As early as 8:30am, representatives from government offices, schools, and private companies set up their tables and stations, complete with their information materials for students.

Manglona was elated on the event's turnout which also saw the attendance of other GCA students.

"They were very excited and very positive," Manglona said of the feedback of the participating students.

The school's four newly hired teachers from the mainland also shared to students their college experience in an effort to inspire them to pursue higher education.

"We have 20 seniors who are graduating this year and some of them may or may not go to college. What we're showing them in our career day are the opportunities that await them after high school," Manglona said, adding that speakers from the various entities did a good presentation about their programs and functions.

For those who may not go to college, available vocational courses and training can be availed at Northern Marianas Trade Institute.

Aside from NMTI, other agencies that extended assistance and pre-briefing on their function to students are American Memorial Park Rangers, U.S. Coast Guard, Division of Environmental Quality, Department of Public Safety, Workforce Investment Agency, Saipan Higher Educational Financial Assistance, and the Northern Marianas College.

SHEFA and NMC also assisted students in providing information about available educational financial assistance and scholarship programs after high school.

Catlett is new Senate legal counsel

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former House of Representatives counsel Ian Catlett is back in the CNMI to work as Senate legal counsel.

Catlett, who left the island for a year, replaced former Senate counsel Michael Ernest who is now the CNMI consumer counsel at the Office of the Attorney General.

In a memo to Senate Pres. Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) and committee chairs, Senate legal counsel Anthony Cabrera said that the Legislative Bureau hired Catlett to work as Senate legal counsel effective Sept. 16.

Catlett is the counsel assisting four standing committees formerly staffed by Ernest. These include the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs, Committee on Judiciary, Government and Law, and Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications.

Cabrera, meanwhile, will continue to be the primary legal counsel assisting five Senate committees.

These are the Committee on Rules and Procedure, Committee on Fiscal Affairs, Committee on Health and Welfare, Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies, and Committee on Education and Youth Affairs.

29 candidates running in Youth Congress poll

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A total of 29 candidates will run for the 23 available seats in the CNMI Youth Congress elections set for Oct. 19.

Youth Congress coordinator Roz Leon Guerrero said out of the 29 candidates, five are seeking reelection. They include incumbent Youth Congress Speaker Alana Leon Guerrero and youth senators Bianca Blanco, Annie Camacho, Sunny Aldan, and Seong Bin Lee.

The 29 Candidates will have only a week to woo the over 2,300 registered voters for the polls, which according to the Legislative Bureau will be divided into 11 school precincts.

Marianas High School makes up the bulk of registered voters with 814 voters, followed by Saipan Southern High School, 661; Kagman High School, 195; Mount Carmel School, 88; Tinian High School, 52; Grace Christian Academy, 45; Marianas Baptist Academy, 35; Northern Marianas College, 25; Northern Marianas Academy, 25; Rota High School, 18; and Saipan International School, 11.

In the precinct level, 335 youths are expected to participate in the Oct. 19 elections. Forty-nine of them are from Precinct 1; 23 from Precinct II; 65 from Precinct III; 29 from Precinct IV; 53 from Precinct V; 51 from Precinct VI; and 65 from Precinct VII.

Last Tuesday was the deadline for the registration in the three islands.

Saipan Tribune learned that this year's registration figure of 2,304 reflects a 10-percent decline from last year's 2,563.

It can be recalled that in 2008, only 37 percent of the registered voters cast their votes.

This year, Youth Congress will use a new database for a more efficient processing and conduct of elections.

The new system provides updated data and information about youths and candidates as well as statistics during previous years' Youth Congress leadership.

SAIPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2nd Annual
Saipan Chamber of Commerce
GOLF TOURNAMENT
LAO LAO BAY • WEST COURSE • SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009
SHOW TIME: 6:00 A.M. • SHOTGUN START: 7:00 A.M. • BANQUET GUESTS: $20.00/PERSON
EARLY REGISTRATION FEE: $95.00/PERSON
LATE ENTRY AFTER OCTOBER 14: $105.00/PERSON
(INCLUSIVE OF GREEN FEE, PRIZES, AWARDS BANQUET)
TWO-PERSON SCRAMBLE
MEN'S LOW GROSS
1. $500.00
2. $300.00
3. $200.00
MEN'S LOW NET (DOUBLE PEORIA)
1. $500.00
2. $300.00
3. $200.00
WOMEN'S LOW NET (DOUBLE PEORIA)
1. $500.00
2. $300.00
3. $200.00
Prizes for Straight Drive • Longest Drive • Closest to the Pin
$25,000
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Two engines in Rota power plant need overhaul

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to meet the power demand of Rota, it has to overhaul two of the three engines at its power plant on the island.

This according to CUC assistance executive director Abe Utu Malae, who returned from Rota last week where he personally assessed the condition of the power plant.

He said Rota only has one power plant that supplies two of the three feeders.

The third feeder, Malae said, is supplied by the Rota Resort power plant.

"The CUC power plant needs a lot of help," he said.

He said though there are three engines available for Rota, only one which was recently overhauled supplies power to the two feeders.

CUC's plan is to overhaul the two other units and another on Tinian.

Malae

The most urgent need, Malae said, is to complete the overall of the unit from Tinian which is the least expensive at a cost of $100,000.

"There are also the handling and disposal of waste oil, a challenge on both Rota and Saipan," Malae said.

He said its major water project is the maintenance of the route to the headwater in the mountains, which calls for the opening of a three-mile hiking trail.

Water tanks, he said, also have to be inspected and upgraded along with water and diesel tanks.

Malae said it is CUC's goal to prevent Rota from having serious power supply problems.

"I want to prevent the 'out of sight, out of mind' syndrome. There is always the danger that the folks at headquarters will pay more attention to the issues in front of them rather than to those miles away—because the remote operation is 'out of sight'," Malae said.

Sen. Paul Manglona previously disclosed that Rota's power plant has been neglected for many years and as a result, the island's unstable power generation resulted in a series of blackouts last August.

Power demand on Rota is 1.6 to 1.8 megawatts.

Lawmaker asks MVA to explain donation to Beautify CNMI

The Marianas Visitors Authority has been asked to explain a substantial donation it made to Beautify CNMI the past fiscal year.

Sen. Luis P. Crisostimo wants MVA to submit details of MVA's expenditures made to the Beautify CNMI in fiscal year 2009.

Crisostimo

In a letter by Crisostimo to MVA managing director Perry John P. Tenorio, the senator raised three issues—no bidding process was used, how the donated funds were used, and MVA has a limited budget to support its mission.

"Although I appreciate any efforts to clean our islands and protect our environment, I have three specific concerns about this expenditure of our scarce public resources," Crisostimo wrote.

The letter was sent via fax to *Saipan Tribune*.

Crisostimo said that instead of soliciting island beautification proposals from a wide variety of service providers, he asked Tenorio if MVA simply wrote a check.

"If this was the case, how did MVA ensure that its expenditures were in the best interest of the taxpayers?" asked Crisostimo.

Crisostimo wants to know if the money was spent only on Saipan or did the other islands benefit.

He also asked MVA to explain that if public funding was used to purchase equipment or other durable goods, then who is the owner of the purchased items and whether the CNMI government retains any right of ownership.

Crisostimo said that like all government agencies, MVA has a limited budget to support its mission, which is to do its job to increase tourists' arrivals.

This he said is a critical element for the CNMI's economic recovery efforts.

"In light of these operational pressures, can MVA really afford to be donating its funds to private groups?" he asked.

He also requested MVA to give details on any competitive biding process that was used prior to expenditures as well as full accounting of what goods/services were purchased with these public funds.

Angelo Villagomez of Beautify CNMI said that MVA has the records and receipts.

He said that the donation was in the $1,000 range and was used during the island-wide cleanup in April 2009.

Villagomez said that over 4,000 Saipan residents participated in the cleanup.

"The money was spent on paint to remove graffiti from bus stops in Kagman and garbage bags and gloves, which were given to DEQ," Villagomez said.

He said the volunteers picked up 27,070 lbs. of litter that day, about "20 hours of manpower and 30 lbs. of trash removed from the streets and beaches per dollar spent."

Villagomez said the cleanup was one of the most efficient uses of funds by any government agency in recent history. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

Shell launches fundraising drive for Ondoy victims in RP

Shell North Pacific Islands president Eloy Lizama announced Friday that Shell will be providing financial relief to the disaster stricken Philippines in the aftermath of Typhoon Ondoy.

From Oct. 12 to Oct. 31, all Shell stations in Guam, Saipan, and Palau will be donating a nickel for a gallon of fuel purchased at their stations.

"We're proud to be able to work together with our customers and our staff in an effort to provide much needed relief for our neighbors in the Philippines," said Lizama.

He went on to say, "In fact, the entire Shell family across Asia Pacific and particularly in the Philippines have come together to provide assistance to the disaster stricken area. It's quite a momentous effort and we know our employees and customers want to do what they can to help out."

In terms of disaster relief, Shell's primary objective has been to focus on providing immediate support, on the ground, to affected local communities through Shell operations in the disaster area.

While the situation has now been stabilized, there is still much to be done. The effort in Guam, Saipan, and Palau is part of a larger corporate relief effort. Shell's Corporate offices in the Philippines have also undertaken to provide relief efforts through its retail sites. Shell stations in the Philippines now serve as collection points for donations.

Typhoon Ondoy recently caused the worst flooding in Metro Manila in more than four decades. This tragedy resulted in more than 100 deaths and has displaced hundreds of thousands of residents from Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

"While we've been quite fortunate lately and have been spared from disastrous storms, our neighbors in the Philippines have not been so fortunate. Times like these bring out the best in all of us in Guam, Saipan, and Palau, and we're looking forward to making a difference" said Lizama. ***(PR)***

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$39.99/set
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From October 1 to 31, 2009 (31 days)
Homemade Pumpkin Pie Special Offer!
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(50% discount value. $3.25/slice!)
1 whole pumpkin pie only $25.99 (30% discount value, $4.33/slice!)
1 slice pumpkin pie only $4.99 (20% discount value!)
Free Wi-Fi Available
pepsi
Miller Genuine Draft
Opens at 11:00 am - 10:30 pm Comete Center 1F, Garapan, next to Tony Roma's • Tel.: 233-9194 or 233-9196

Saipan Sea Ventures to help CHC Volunteers

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan established a tie up with the Commonwealth Health Center Volunteers Association for special projects at the hospital, it is Saipan Sea Ventures' turn to join the good cause.

The company is holding a dinner cruise fundraiser this Saturday, Oct. 17, from 7:30pm to 10pm. The boat departs at 8pm.

The price per person will be $30 and $50 for two and will give participants an opportunity to watch the island from the sea while enjoying good food.

It would also be an opportunity for all guests to assist CHC Volunteers Association with its goal to raise $500,000 to purchase a hyperbaric chamber for the hospital.

Saipan Sea Ventures said 50 percent of the sales from the dinner cruise would go to the project.

CHC Volunteers Association's Annie Benavente said Saipan Sea Ventures president Miki Pellegrino told her that they thought about the dinner cruise fundraiser soon after learning about the group's tie up with Fiesta.

The Chambre Bar at Fiesta started with its "Healthy Food Lunch Buffet" on Sept. 1 with $1 from out of the $6.99 price going to the project.

The first check, amounting to $516 was turned over at 10am Friday, by hotel management to CHC Volunteers Association.

The hyperbaric chamber is a sealed chamber in which a high-pressure environment is used primarily to treat decompression sickness, gas embolism, carbon monoxide poisoning, gas gangrene resulting from infection by anaerobic bacteria, and tissue injury arising from radiation therapy for cancer, and wounds that are difficult to heal.

Benavente said Acting Secretary of Public Health Pete Untalan told CHC Volunteers Association that there must be a separate facility for the equipment.

Another company has signified its intention to help the group by holding a similar fundraiser in the next few days.

30 Day NOTICE

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor and in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 at § 134 (d) (4) (G) (ii), and the regulations at § 663.430, provide that, under limited circumstances, contracts for training rather than ITA's (Individual Training Accounts) may be used. Contracts may be used when there is insufficient number of eligible providers in a local area. This exception applies primarily to rural areas. The Act reforms the local service delivery system by eliminating the current practice of assigning participants to contracted training services and instead establishing a system that maximizes customer choice in the selection of training providers.

With limited training providers in the CNMI, the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency is in the process of developing for incumbent workers Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) training in the form of a contract for training instead of ITA's.

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor hereby publishes this NOTICE for 30 day public comment period for interested providers. Comments must be submitted in writing and addressed to Ms. Edith DeLeon Guerrero, WIA Executive Director at Gov't. Bldg. No. 1215, Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or email at gov.wia@pticom.com.

A PUBLIC INVITATION

The Honorable Miguel S. Demapan
Chief Justice, Commonwealth Supreme Court
and
the Justices, Judges, and Staff of

The Commonwealth Judiciary

cordially invite the public to attend the

State of the Judiciary Address

Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.
Supreme Court Courtroom
Guma' Hustisia - Iimwal Aweewe - House of Justice

Tonga shaken by 5.9 quake

NEW YORK (AP)—A moderate magnitude 5.9 earthquake shook the South Pacific near Tonga on Sunday morning, the U.S. Geological Survey reported. No tsunami watch was issued.

The quake struck at 8:41 Sunday morning (1941 GMT Saturday) at a depth of 10 kilometers (6.2 miles), the USGS said.

It was centered 65 kilometers (40 miles) east-northeast Hihifo, Tonga, and 645 kilometers (400 miles) north-northeast of the capital, Nuku'alofa, Tonga, the agency reported.

Sunday's quake was 260 kilometers (160 miles) southwest of Apia, Samoa, which was hit by a quake and a devastating tsunami on Sept. 29, with at least 183 people killed.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center issued no tsunami warning after Sunday's quake.

Navy to conduct live-fire exercises on Farallon de Medinilla

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct live-fire training exercises on the island of Farallon de Medinilla from 7am to 1am on Oct. 13-14, 16 and 18.

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon de Medinilla Training Area on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. The general public especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from this area during the time and date indicated.

Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. ***(PR)***

Veterans Day Committee looking for volunteers

The Veterans Day Committee is looking for volunteers to help organize Veterans Day activities next month.

If you are interested in being a part of this year's Veterans Day Committee, the group is meeting every Tuesday of October beginning 9pm at the Office of Military/ Veterans Affairs on Capitol Hill building 1364. Everyone is encouraged and invited to attend. For more information, call 664-2650.

Veterans Day will be held on Nov. 11, 2009 and it is the day to pay tribute and thank all who served and are serving today in the U.S Armed Forces. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

OCT. 12, 1999

Manhunt for 3 escapees

Police are hunting down one inmate and two detainees who bolted out of prison at around 7:46 p.m. Sunday, the fourth jailbreak under the administration of Public Safety Commissioner Charles Ingram.

The Department of Public Safety has ordered a massive manhunt for the immediate arrest of 19-year-old Shawn Appleby, 22-year-old Jeronimo S. Ada and 27-year-old Melvin S. Basa. Appleby is serving a 40-year sentence for killing Korean businessman Byung Ok Suh in November 1996 after robbing the victim's store, Chalan Market.

The third child in a family of four, Appleby has a string of criminal records: theft, resisting arrest, assault with a dangerous weapon, and criminal mischief.

Tighter FAS migration gets boost in House

Two House committees have endorsed a legislative proposal seeking to restrict the stay of Freely Associated States citizens in the CNMI, saying the measure is "reasonable, timely and fair" despite protests from Micronesian governments. The joint panel of Federal and Foreign Relations as well as Labor and Immigration called on lawmakers to pass the bill offered by Rep. Melvin O. Faisao to protect local citizens and scarce resources against the adverse impact of so-called FAS habitual residency. "Without federal assistance, the Commonwealth finds it increasingly difficult to host FAS citizens, especially in light of our dwindling economy," said the two committees in a report on House Bill-294.

OCT. 12, 2000

Guns issue splits community

The controversial bill seeking to ease the tough gun control law in the CNMI remains a divisive issue in the community despite assurances by its proponents of stricter safety regulations within the proposed shooting resorts. Dozens of island residents and local officials as well as prospective Korean investors turned out at a public hearing yesterday conducted by the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic, Development and Programs. The hearing at the Senate chamber in Capitol Hill was the last in a series of town meetings tackling HB 12-212. The panel held discussion on Rota on Oct. 6 and on Tinian last Tuesday.

CDA on right track in $60-M bond

The Commonwealth Development Authority and its mainland United States-based underwriters are on the right track in delaying the flotation of the $60 million municipal bond in anticipation of the seasonal drop in interest rates. Rep. William S. Torres expressed confidence CDA and its underwriters in San Francisco will be able to strike the best deal for the Commonwealth once the tax-free municipal bond is finally floated. "It's just a matter of proper timing but I am sure it's moving on the right direction. They are just waiting for the interest rates to fall because that would be more beneficial for the Northern Marianas," said Mr. Torres.

OCT. 12, 2001

Departing passengers under tight monitoring

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has tightened the monitoring even of departing passengers, in line with the enforcement of heightened security measures. Ports officials advised the traveling public to limit their carry-on bags to one, as well as their check-in luggage, to prevent longer inspection processes. Departing passengers are also advised to check-in three hours before the scheduled flight to give inspection teams sufficient time to go through their baggage. CPA Board Chair Roman S. Palacios said security measures at the Saipan International Airport remain, as the Department of Public Safety instituted additional contingency measures.

Local government urged to create recruitment program

The Tinian Municipal Council recently passed a resolution urging the local government to set aside a percentage of the total local revenue to fund a recruitment program that will address human resources needs. Resolution 8-046, approved by Council Chair Juanita M. Mendiola, Vice-chair Antonio H. Borja and Councilman Antonio Kiyoshi, aims to place local students who return to Tinian with high degrees of education in qualified positions. The Council noted that majority of industries in the Northern Marianas continue to depend on nonresident labor due to the absence of adequate indigenous workers.

Video shows cars, trucks tossed by tsunami waves

JAYMES SONG
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

HONOLULU (AP)—The FBI on Friday released video footage showing waves rushing in and violently tossing cars and trucks in a parking lot as a deadly tsunami struck American Samoa last week.

The dramatic video was taken on the morning of Sept. 29 from a stationary security camera at the FBI office in Pago Pago. The video shows about a dozen cars, ranging from an SUV to a Volkswagen Beetle, being thrown around like whitewater rafts.

The two-minute clip also shows three people walking in the parking lot shortly before the wave struck. One man runs quickly in the opposite direction less than 30 seconds before the water enters the scene.

The FBI said because of its second-floor location at Pago Plaza, the office suffered only minimal damage. No agents were inside at the time. The building is located about 100 yards (meters) from the shoreline.

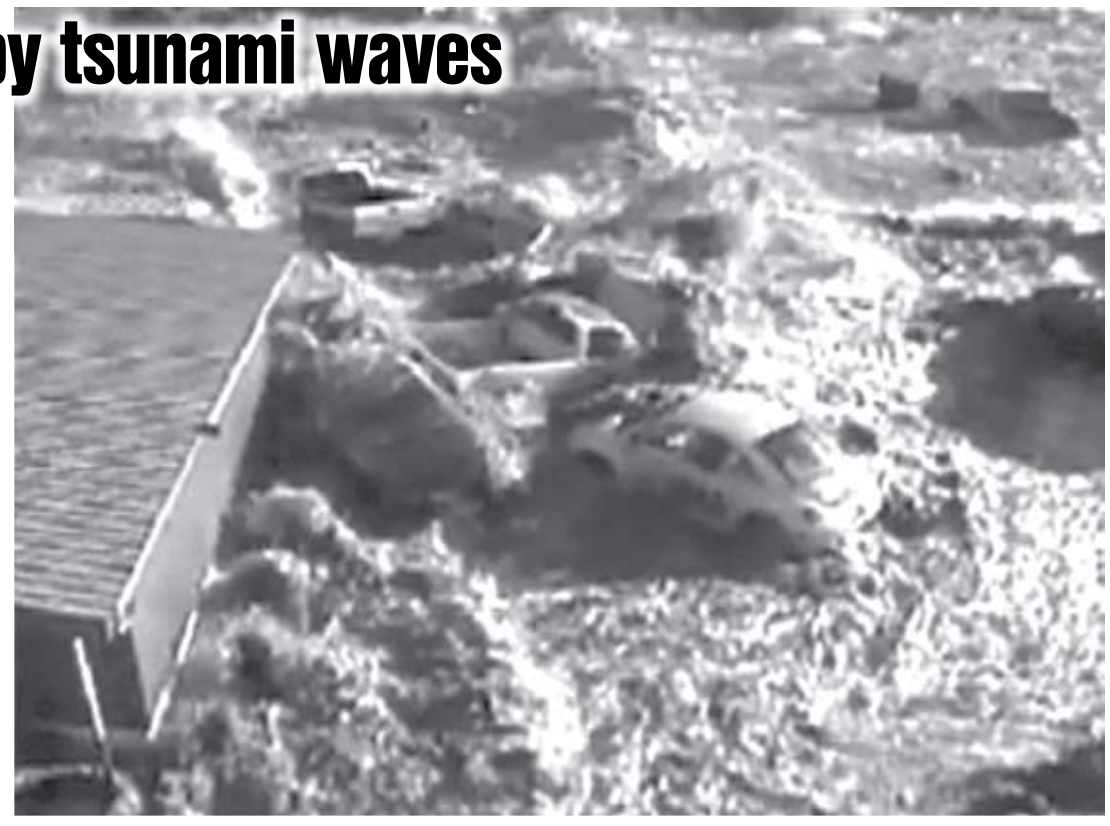
The water hit the parking lot at 7:14 a.m. in American Samoa, about 26 minutes after an 8.3-magnitude earthquake shook the South Pacific.

The time stamp on the video is in Hawaii Standard Time. Local time in American Samoa is one hour earlier.

At least 183 people were killed in the Sept. 29 tsunami, including 142 in Samoa. An additional 32 people were killed in American Samoa and nine in Tonga.

"As someone who lives on a Pacific island myself, it really brought home the level of destruction that a tsunami brings along with it," said FBI special agent Thomas Simon Jr. in Honolulu.

The video recently arrived at the FBI office in Honolulu, which oversees American Samoa and other U.S. territories in the Pacific. The FBI released it publicly because the bureau felt there was a public interest.



AP

This image made from video provided by the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) shows last weeks tsunami arriving in Pago Pago, American Samoa, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009.

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its ***Regular*** meeting **Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.** at the **NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.**

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting:
  - 1. June 4, 2009
  - 2. July 1, 2009

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. REPORTS
- A. Report of the Chairman
  - 1. ROC No. 10-001
- B. Report of the Administrator / Correspondence
  - 1. ROA No. 10-001
    - a) Status Updates
- C. Report of the Comptroller
  - 1. Financials
    - a) NMI Retirement Fund
    - b) GHLITF
    - c) WCC
  - 2. Drawdown Requests
  - 3. CGECU Status Update
- D. Reports of the Committees
  - 1. Finance & Investment Committee
  - 2. Operations & Personnel Committee
  - 3. Policies, Programs & Legislative Review Committee
  - 4. GH&L and WCC Committee
- E. Report of the Investment Director
  - 1. Status of Investment/Market Condition
  - 2. Report of the Housing Loan Program
- F. Communications
  - 1. Internal Auditor Reports
- G. Other Matters

IV. LEGAL MATTERS
- A. Reports of the Legal Counsels
  - 1. Report of the Board Counsel
    - a) Lawsuit
      - i) Report of the Post Judgment Negotiation Panel
      - ii) Other Legal Matters
  - 2. Report of the In-House Counsel
    - a) Update on Administrative Appeals
  - 3. Report of the Hearing Officer

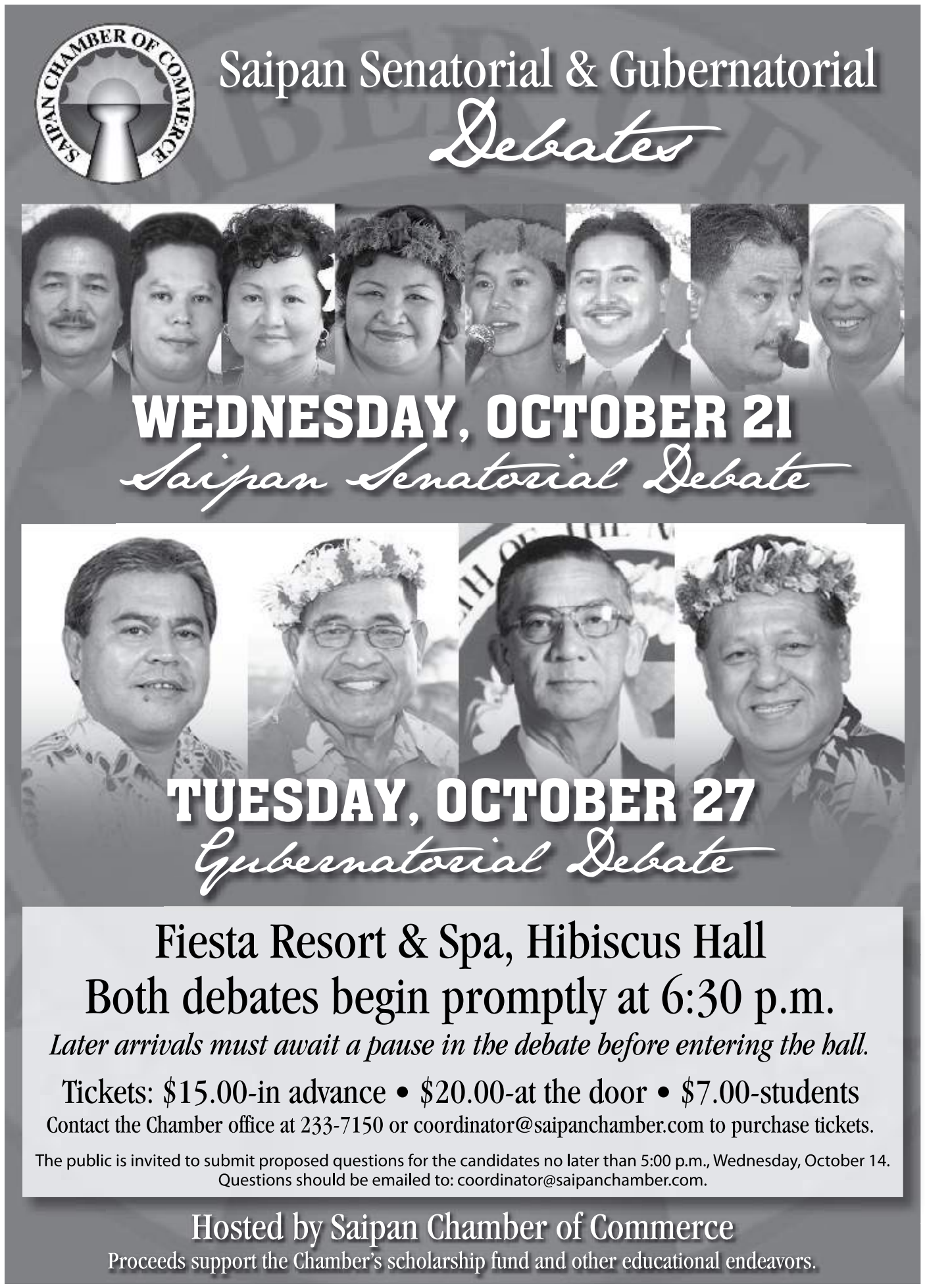
V. OLD BUSINESS
- 1. BR 08-001 Matters
  - a) Pension Application Matters
  - b) P.L. 15-98 / Refunds
  - c) Disability Applicants
- 2. Board Resolution – Cease of Refunds (BR09-003)
- 3. Board Resolution – Proportionate Pensions
- 4. Budgets
  - a) FY 2009 Revised
  - b) FY 2010

VI. NEW BUSINESS
- 1. Collections Attorney
- 2. NMIRF Legal Counsel JVA
- 3. Proposed Amendments to the Board By-Laws
- 4. Election of Officers
- 5. Aetna Brokerage Proposal
- 6. Investment Consulting Services
- 7. Administrator's Contract
- 8. MHL – Bank Pacific

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS
- A. Announcements
- B. Next Meeting
- C. Adjournment

/s/ **PEDRO Q. DELA CRUZ**
ACTING CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES


SAIPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Saipan Senatorial & Gubernatorial
Debates
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21
Saipan Senatorial Debate
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27
Gubernatorial Debate
Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hibiscus Hall
Both debates begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.
Later arrivals must await a pause in the debate before entering the hall.
Tickets: $15.00-in advance • $20.00-at the door • $7.00-students
Contact the Chamber office at 233-7150 or coordinator@saipanchamber.com to purchase tickets.
The public is invited to submit proposed questions for the candidates no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 14.
Questions should be emailed to: coordinator@saipanchamber.com.
Hosted by Saipan Chamber of Commerce
Proceeds support the Chamber's scholarship fund and other educational endeavors.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 244

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MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A clear line on stem cells

The swirl of controversy that greeted President Obama's executive order lifting the ban on federal funding of stem cell research in March didn't make a significant return when the final rules were released over the summer. That's because the National Institutes of Health successfully navigated a minefield of ethical and moral questions. To protect those regulations from politics and changes by another administration, Rep. Diana DeGette, D-Colo. soon will introduce the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2009. The legislation would codify Obama's executive order permitting federal funding of such research within guidelines established by the NIH and would require that they be reviewed periodically.

Usually, couples who go to in vitro fertilization clinics create more embryos than will be implanted. The remainder are either destroyed or frozen. The NIH regulations and the bill would allow couples to donate their embryos for research as long as they are fully informed of their choices and they are not compensated for the embryos. The guidelines give donors the ability to change their minds "until the embryos were actually used."

Obama's executive order overturned one issued by President George W. Bush in 2001 that allowed federal funding only for those stem cell lines already developed. Scientists ultimately found the number of approved lines too few and the utility of those lines limited.

For facilities with stem cell lines developed on or before July 7, the NIH will establish a committee of scientists, ethicists and advocates to examine on a case-by-case basis the procedures and paperwork to determine whether the lines were derived with voluntary informed consent from donors and in a manner consistent with the new rules. This panel would also make the same evaluation of stem cell lines originating outside the United States. There are an estimated 700 stem cell lines already in existence.

The bill specifically outlaws human cloning, as do the NIH guidelines. And Congress already prohibits federal funding for collecting stem cell lines from human embryos, which are destroyed in the process. But the NIH rules make it clear that taxpayer money will not be used on lines from embryos created solely for research. The life-saving treatments and therapies that could result from stem cell research should not come from crossing this clear moral and ethical boundary.

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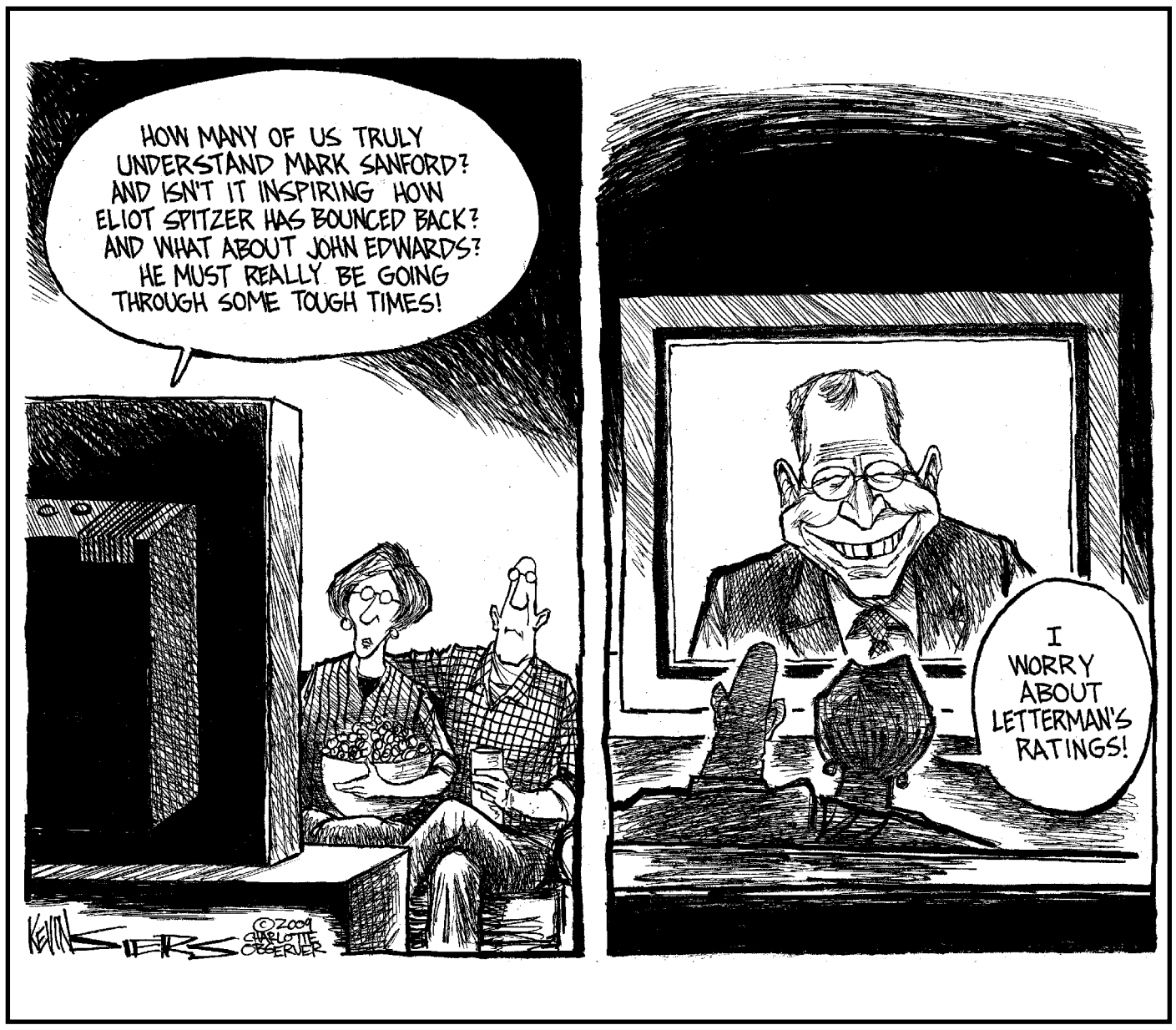
HOW MANY OF US TRULY UNDERSTAND MARK SANFORD? AND ISN'T IT INSPIRING HOW ELIOT SPITZER HAS BOUNCED BACK? AND WHAT ABOUT JOHN EDWARDS? HE MUST REALLY BE GOING THROUGH SOME TOUGH TIMES!
I WORRY ABOUT LETTERMAN'S RATINGS!
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Now is the time to teach your child politics

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Where do our children fit into all this hullabaloo about elections? Currently our roads are lined with sign boards plastered with smiling faces urging us to vote for them. Television is sprinkled with candidates' faces and pleas for our vote. Newspapers are filled with political advertisements. My children are bombarding me with dozens of questions about all this fanfare. Is there anything our children can learn from election time?

Isn't it important that with all the many different viewpoints and with our suspicions of politicians that our children learn how government works and how political leaders are elected? It is essential that our children develop both a genuine understanding of the political process and an interest in making sure that it works well. While some of this political process is taught in the schools, we, as parents, are the ones that will make a lasting impression on our children. They learn from our attitudes and actions.

Children must be taught to love our islands along with its good and bad points. To love our islands is to make our children more just and compassionate. We must teach them the history of our islands and the history of the United States because we are in union with it as citizens. This learning leads to patriotism. Furthermore, understanding and participating in our political system will make them good citizens. Healthy political convictions spark a patriotic spirit which will result in an appreciation of the CNMI and the United States. It also leads to a greater commitment to human freedom and dignity.

In a few years they will become voters just as we are. Unless we teach them when young and from watching us perform our civic duty, they will remain ignorant or disinterested voters easily swayed by false promises.

Let's discuss some ways to help our children build an appreciation of our heritage and create an enthusiasm for actively preserving and improving it:

A. Explain to the child the various candidates and the offices each are seeking. Discuss what the House of Representatives is. Tell them how many members and the length of term each representative serves. Explain its legislative functions. Show them the difference between the Senate and the House. Then discuss what the Administration does. Especially discuss with them the Office of the Governor.

B. Teach them who the current elected leaders are and the offices they hold. If your child is old enough, explain some the various agencies that make up the government.

C. Take a field trip to the Legislative and the Administration Buildings. We may want to include a tour to the Judicial Building and explain how the court system works.

D. The next time we go to a political rally, take the kids along. Afterwards discuss what happened and what was said. We may want to visit different parties regardless of our preference. After all this is a learning experience for the child and perhaps for us also.

E. Create an opportunity such as at the dinner table to discuss the day's news. Try assigning them to read and explain a pertinent political issue. Listening to the 6'oclock news together might be a good way to get the children interested. At least we can enjoy the sports news that follows.

F. Explain to them our personal choices and why we have made them. Be careful not to talk bad about any candidate. Keep the conversation as objective as possible. We don't want to instill prejudices.

G. Help them to understand the political labels such as Democrat, Republican, Covenant, and Independent.

H. Explain the values of certain governmental controls. Discuss the needs for a health department, public school system, utilities agency, police and fire department, and any other government agency that services the community.

I. Let's involve our teenagers in the political process on some level. They can distribute handbills in the neighborhood or help with telephone canvassing.

J. Take them with you on election and let them watch you vote.

K. Discuss various issues of the candidates. Teach them to evaluate what the candidates are saying.

These are only a few suggestions. We can find many more to help our children become educated in the system of politics. It is our duty not only to feed and clothe them, but to educate their minds. Please don't rely solely upon the schools to indoctrinate

See NOW on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Angels of the New World

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind is about William Kamkwamba of Malawi who as a 14-year-old school dropout built himself an electricity-generating windmill out of a book from a neighboring USIS-supplied library that got him scholarship to go back to school, and a flurry of windmill construction in his country. A recent guest on Jon Stewart's CNN show, the ebullient young man presented an image of a creature that grew wings of the imagination to transform his local situation from predicament to opportunity.

Today is Columbus Day in the national calendar, and though we often think of it as commemorating the day the Genoese navigator and explorer *Christoffa Corombo* got his *Pinta, Nina,* and the *Santa Maria* to the Caribbean Island he would call San Salvador, after a historic crossing of the Atlantic, it has since become a metaphor for the Old World's entry into the New World. That was then.

It is now. The Nobel Peace Prize committee decided to recognize Barack Obama's stated principles and peace initiatives. While GOP National Chair Michael Steele continues his total and unrelenting scorched-earth lambasts of Obama's alleged non-performance, Sen. John McCain saw the committee's take on an enormous promise in the process of engagement and implementation.

We are familiar, as perhaps, Steele is not, of Albert Einstein's famous quote: *"Imagination is more important than knowledge."* As a colleague in Texas once mused: We do not send astronauts to outer space gauging their understanding of the geometrics of space rocketry but rather, whether or not, they exhibit a healthy imagination to explore the mysterious and the unknown.

So what new world are we entering into these days? What historic crossings are being made? OK, first, the title of this article. Less I am accused of writing this as a veiled endorsement of the candidacy of Angelo Villagomez for Mayor of Saipan, my immediate response is an emphatic "No," because it is hardly veiled at all! Angelo, of course, is singular; "angels" in the title is plural. Now, are we clear?

The metaphor of angels is appropriate this day. "Christopher" derives from the word "Christ" which, were we to get off our extra-religious luggage, is a term for an authentic embodiment of what is real ("from that which simply IS," as the Yahwist would have it!), and in the metaphor of our time, the ones that wrestles us back to reality (as Jacob of old once discovered in a dream) are angels.

I was teaching a three-week crash CNMI overview in my 6th Grade Social Studies Class a year or so ago, when the Marianas Marine Monument was being fiercely debated on island and beyond. Having previously extolled the virtues of Angelo's efforts with the Beautify CNMI folks, I took the opportunity to invite Angelo to speak to the class.

His first statement was an attention-getter: ***"I am not a government employee. Nor do I have any plans of becoming one."*** That was dropped like dead weight without any further explanation, though it would be obvious to his captive audience who have imbibed deeply by then on the notion that to coast through the local economy with ease and comfort is to become a government functionary, and here came one of renown going against the grain! The then XO for the CNMI's effort to engage local support for the declaration of the Marine Monument up the northernmost islands being mulled by the Bush White House at the time, took his audio-visual tools and proceeded to regal his audience with his imaginative skills and succinct yet comprehensive grasp of the relevant subject.

This past Wednesday, our young ruffian (we mean this in its proper noun meaning, of course) donned a jacket and a tie to join island casuals before the Saipan Chamber of Commerce to share a few sound bites and quotable quotes on this current foray into elective office. Angelo sure has a knack for going against the grain even when the vilification of his threatened elders raises new heights. Beyond partisan politics and the entrapment of ego-satisfaction and personality cult, he appears to be wading into the arena of servant leadership role in public service.

Another angel who requires no fanfare is Tina Sablan whose efforts have since become legendary and her tactic of holding officials accountable is quite different from those who would like to hold *politicos* hostage, literally or metaphorically, to some coercive ethical or moralistic measure. Her's has been simply an objective level type of inquiry, e.g., "if we are being represented in a suit against Uncle Sam, are we paying for it? Since we did not authorize any support for such a representation, who then is paying for it?"

Even given her popularity, she eschews mob rule to harass and embarrass, rather, she balances out and set things right, would seek redress rather than coerce, would restore rather than destroy. As a contemporary divine once said, *Blessed is the person who learned to admire but not to envy, to praise but not flatter, and to lead but not to manipulate.*

She represents change in governance and her style of transparency of both intention and procedure makes her a surgical laser beam in the cancerous body politic of old boy backroom negotiated compromises. Her jaunt into the Senatorial ramp will be a good measure on weather Saipan is ready, as its rhetoric seem to indicate of late, that responsible change is not only desired but necessary.

I am clear that if the voters do equivocate on this decision, that it will not diminish Tina's professional and personal resolve to be a timber of responsible and transparent public service on these islands. The venue may change but the push for a broad and inclusive vision, and the drive to implement a consensed mission, would not be shortchanged. There is no indication that demonstrated passion already witnessed in the last two years is abating.

However, as the group VoteCNMI is insisting, the numbers' game counts. Tina's entry into the Legislature was itself by a slim margin. So was the governor's into the top Commonwealth executive office, for that matter. So, were I running for office, I would be known as *Jaime Empleo Allado Ravelo Vergara y Cruz* (though in the CNMI context, these names would hardly make any difference). But we get the point, don't we?

One wishes for politics beyond clan and kinship ties, a world we are moving away from, to embrace the new world that is blowing fiercely on our faces. But if tactics other than the unsightly politics of billboards worked for Tina, word of mouth, personal endorsements, and face-to-face meetings will, and there is no shortage of imagination to get the likes of Tina and Angelo into the hearts and minds of the electorate. Democrats with the lower case 'd', connect! Let's get to work.

Is the CNMI moving into the New World? Yes, we can. And yes, we will. We even have angels to get us there.

Letter to the Editor

No terrorists allowed

What if communist Russia and Red China were allowed into the CNMI as tourists and no terrorists came?

CNMI delegate to the United States Congress Sablan has valiantly filed a bill—with less than 50 days remaining before the November 28th takeover of the Commonwealth's immigration (and labor) department—to allow the entry of two nuclear-armed communist nations, China and Russia, into our islands. And for the sake of CNMI's plunging gross revenue, let's say Sablan's bill is approved in any form, for whatever reason and determined period of reprieve.

On the other side of the same token, we must not lose sight of that $16 billion ongoing massive military buildup in Guam and in the Marianas, placing us squarely in the crosshairs of Muslim fanatics and North Korean crazies. That is not a pleasant thought. Having said that, come now a strong recommendation for every person here on Saipan even if Sablan's bill does not muster approval at this short notice.

There now exists a new program called "iWatch," which is aimed at keeping Americans safe from, specifically, terror attacks. This two-year old program conceived in Los Angeles, California, relies on individual citizens to serve as "the eyes and ears" of their communities, a 21st century version of the old Neighborhood Watch. This community watch program endorsed by police chiefs across the U.S. teaches people how to work together to detect suspicious behavior and report it to police.

The developers of the program, L.A. Police Chief William Bratton and Police Commander Joan McNamara, believe iWatch encourages local residents to stay alert and informed about their neighborhoods. "A single observation, a single report can lead to actions that can stop a terrorist attack" warns one of many Public Safety Announcement videos released by the LAPD.

Already, the chiefs of the 63 largest police departments in the U.S. and Canada met and endorsed iWatch. They cited the case of Najibullah Zazi, the Denver Arabic immigrant who drove an airport pickup vehicle. He was suspected of having ties to Al Qaeda in New York City and has been accused of plotting to use a weapon of mass destruction within the U.S. With stolen credit cards, allegedly, Zazi sought to build a powerful bomb with ingredients he purchased from beauty supply outlets at Denver-area stores. A suspicious clerk in one of the stores reported Zazi.

The products he purchased by the carts-full consisted of hydrogen peroxide and acetone—easily found in beauty salons and off-the-shelf stores—base ingredients that can be used to make a powerful and highly unstable homemade explosive called triacetone triperoxide, or TATP. This same explosive was used by would-be airline shoe bomber Richard Reid in 2001 and the terrorists who carried out the London bombings in 2005 that killed 52 people. Zazi's ability to make a chemical or biological bomb at home was verified by information in his laptop confiscated by the feds.

Whether the CNMI is granted the rights to allow Red China and communist Russia as tourists or not, the CNMI government should make immediate inquiries to the right sources and swiftly implement iWatch. We, as U.S. citizens and guest workers on island, should never be shy reporting suspicious behavior. Let the local cops or federal agencies decide whether the intelligence received is paranoid or from someone simply acting on an adventurous impulse.

In addition, should we keep a watchful eye on a high incident of stolen credit cards? Authorities in the local banks can volunteer the answer to that question and submit to the local iWatch. And what about beauty salon workers and taxi cab drivers whose country of origin might be from the Philippines, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Malaysia, or any country where Muslim fundamentalism is practiced and Jihadist activities predominate? Touchy question but by reference know this: the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life estimates between 1 billion to 1.8 billion (1.57 billion) Muslims in the world—one in four of the global population and the second largest religion behind Christianity—practice Islam. And in an alarming note that spooks the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Red China has more Muslims than Syria while communist Russia has more Muslims than Jordan.

Lee Anderson
Chalan Kanoa

NOW

From Page 10

our children into the world of politics. We don't do this for their religious education. We go to church with them and together perform the rites of our religion.

Only we parents can go into details necessary to explain in depth political issues. Schools cannot for various reasons. The school however will outline the systems but will not go into subjective discussions on candidates or even issues. With a little creativity and imagination, exposing our children to politics can be both fun and rewarding. In fact, we too will learn a lot by having to explain politics to our children.

A golden opportunity to have your children listen and see political debates and discussions is coming up on October 21, Wednesday. It is a debate for senatorial candidates sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce at the Fiesta Resort Hotel. A second debate is on October 27, Tuesday for gubernatorial candidates also to be held at the Fiesta Hotel. Tickets are available at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. You don't have to be a member. Just call them or go to their office and get your tickets.

Take the children so they can see and hear the candidates. It will mean so much. I am taking mine there. Hope to see you also.

Let's not miss the opportunity during the remaining weeks before elections to educate our children about the world of politics. It comes once every two years but the results can make a lasting impression. Our country needs us and our children to be active citizens if we are to become a strong and prosperous nation. See you at the debates and at the polls with your children!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

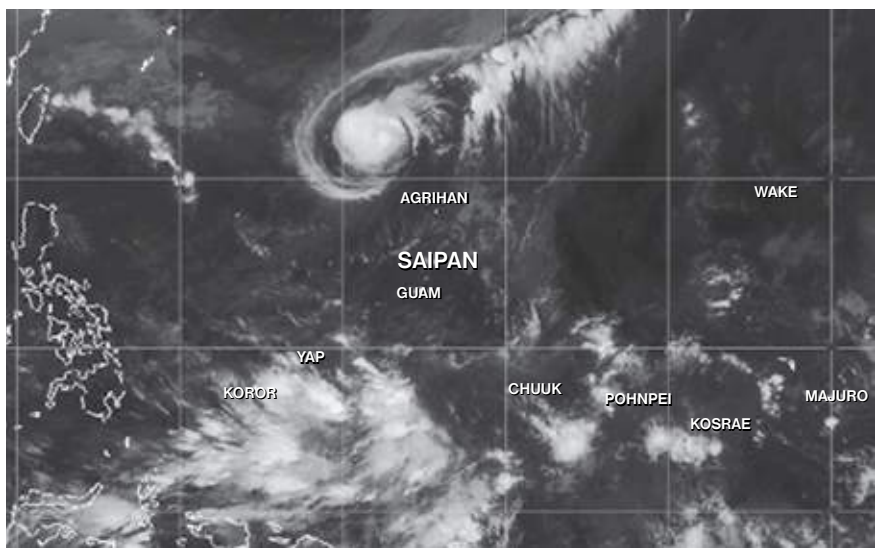
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Rain	▲85	▼77
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼78
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼50
Beijing	Sunny	▲70	▼52
Hong Kong	Rain	▲81	▼77
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼73
London	Cloudy	▲59	▼46
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲74	▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Melbourne	Rain	▲71	▼49
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲90	▼79
New York	Partly Sunny	▲60	▼46
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼56
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲55	▼41
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲71	▼52
Rome	Sunny	▲71	▼42
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲64	▼46
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲67	▼58
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲66	▼50
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲69	▼54
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲62	▼48

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Nepartak (21W) is centered just south of Iwo To near 22N142E and is moving north at 6 mph. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring between 20N and 23N from 140E to 145E. For more information on Tropical Storm Nepartak, see bulletins issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM and by the JTWC issued under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. Convergent southeast winds are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of the Marianas between 13N and 17N from 150E to 154E. Convergent west winds are causing cloudiness, scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Koror and Yap between the equator and 9N from 133E to 149E and south of Chuuk within 75 miles of a line from 3N150E to 3N153E. A weak surface low centered near 4N159E is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Pohnpei between 3N and 8N from 156E to 159E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers east of the Marshall Islands or east of a line from 17N177E to 10N175E to 3N176E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

7:54 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
3:41 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
9:04 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:08 AM	5:59 PM
Tuesday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Wednesday	6:08 AM	5:57 PM
Thursday	6:09 AM	5:57 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:03 AM	1:20 PM
Tuesday	1:04 AM	2:09 PM
Wednesday	2:04 AM	2:53 PM
Thursday	3:02 AM	3:36 PM
Friday	3:58 AM	4:17 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

CO9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 5, 6
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 (last DAILY flight leaves SPN Sep 26)

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
CO9603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
CO9599/PR111	9:30pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

CO9598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
CO9312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

CO9598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
CO9312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
CO9316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
CO9312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:35pm	1:40am+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW100	8:40pm	1:20am+1	1, 4, 5, 7 effective Oct 1

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7 (last DAILY flight leaves NGO Sep 26)

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/CO9596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
CO934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Presisu: Inetnon Natibu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Sumen presisu na ta organisa un` fitme na inentnon natibu pot para ta aregla, sin ditension, sumustene i dignu yan tai achaigua na direchon tautau tanu gumo bietnan maisague. Megai man-sustansiau siha na asuntu presisu na ta pega papa` gi hilu lamasa `nai siña guaha mas antau na inatuñgu hafa siha debi u fan mapetsige.

Mauleg este na dinaña pot para ta tutuhon umina klaru hafa finaposta, taimanu na tratamientu guaha deste tiempon Español, Haliman, Japones yan pagu Amerikanu. Ginen este na inatuñgu yan kinemprende `nai siña ta lie ` I ti apasiyun na sakrifisium antigu na mañainata pot presetbasion yan proteksion linala` famaguon niha.

I intereshu ahe ti ayu i estorian Marianas ni matugi` ni mantitige siha ginen hiyuñg. Debi ta guadug hafa estoriata siha ginen mismu tautauta ni kumomprende kutturan natibu. Ni ñgaian na tiempu na baihu aksepta finu otru sa` taya mas tumuñgu i kutturan tautauta ke hita mismu. Estague` kulan obliasionta gi para ta pañgun tatte hafa dichu sustansian natibu yan i naturat siha na dirichoña.

Gi todu hu ebalua na administrasion ni man-halom guine deste Español, Haliman, Japones yan pagu Amerikanu, tatnai guaha ni unabes klaru na interes ginen siha pot para ma-adelantan linala` natibu. Todu i tiempu pot siha finenina ya gi karera mona kontodu kutturan natibu man-madestrosa. Ni unu man-gagau dispensu esta pagu na ora ginen destrosiau na bidan niha guine.

Este na insuttu gi natibu makat hu aksepta lau dispensayun. Lau i destrosiun kutturan tanu mahasñgun sa` yangin taya ennau na intension pues mañaunau siempre tautauta kumu patte gi areglun adelantun linala` niha. Kulan hu lilie` si guelu yan guela manotohgi humidde pot mina`añau ya mapañot todu tinagu atoridat deste tiempun Español. Ni unu man-imbeste pot esperansa na u mana` fan safu famaguon niha.

I mattrata todu klasen kulot, kontodu fuetsau na ineyag liñguahen Español, Haliman, Japones yan Amerikanu. Mapolu na bahu i liñguahen natibu sa` ma-a`atan papa rasata kumu tagpapa`ña ke eda`. Gi hilu mina`añau mapañot nu i antigu na mañainata todu tinagu` atoridat siha sa` mas atbansau atmas niha ke natibu. Paki yan kañon kontra flechan atupag sumen ti umaya gi bandan atmas muchumas, estrakadan linala`.

I mañainata man-ma`afuetsas umeyag yan fuma` patte petmanente gi kutturan tanu i modun linala` atoridat deste Español. Uttimoña, kontodu siha chumoneg ennao siha na aminasu kontra i tautauta. Man-mama` si San Pedro hit `nai mafaisen kau ha tuñgu` i Saina. Ha bendi lalala` si Jesukristu.

Komprendiyon, piot `nai un` fafana` man-lamlam yan kalagtos na sable gi menamu. Tat ti u yineñgyoñg sensiaña `nai malalasgue kalagtos sable gi fasumu. I kuestion: Kau para ta kontinua este na mañan fuetsau na modu kontra kutturan tanu?

Maseha sumen triste todu mattrata yan mattiru ni fuetsau mamattit siha I antigu na mañainata, pagu i tiempu `nai siña ta aregla ennau siha na insuttu yan distrosiu kontra hita. I hilu antau siha na dinaña yan humidde na konbetsasion `nai siña ta lie` hafa mauleg siha para ta chogue pot futturu yan linala` i manatatte. Muñga ma-atisa dañosu siha na maña gi dinaña linahyan. Saunau mannae` mauleg na rekommnedasion yan antau na hinassu gi chechu todus para ta adelanta umatbansa haanen famaguonta. Sensian guelu yan guela este ya nihi ta abiba gi anaghu na karera mona.

I mauleg siha na programa ni para u fattu ginen hita siempre u oppan yan u saga gi famaguonta para benefisiun niha lokue. Maase` Saina ya un` pipet ham guine na potput yan taduñg na halom tanu yan homhum na sabana. Si Yuus Maase`!

Letters to the Editor

ARRA rational vs reality

I appreciate the rational for the CNMI not spending almost $45 million in ARRA funds but there is really no creditable rational this administration can offer me that will convince me that it is not their fault. But it does highlight one thing for true— not only is this administration incapable of finding new money for our economy they can't even spend millions given to us by the fed. Just imagine someone giving you $45 million and you can only figure out a way to spend $300,000—see how ridiculous that sounds.

Using the rational that other states are using the money to help with medical payments—heck almost everyone in the CNMI needs help with medical payments. We are complaining about CHC's money problems and the feds have already given us money to help CHC. I'm sure there are a lot of reimbursements that could be made with this money. Why isn't there a plan to help offset the cost of our power which I know everyone in the world can justify now? Pointing the finger at NMC, the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., the Ports Authority, and Public School System saying they are not under the executive branch is a lie, not rational when there are Cabinet position to govern over each of these public agencies—what are they getting paid for, to watch and do nothing.

The reality is every public service offered in the CNMI is "governed over" by the Executive Branch of our government—duh? High school students know this fact. The problem is the Executive Branch is not governing just "letting it be" like there new slogan says. Well if they keep just letting it be I'm sure the people are going to change that slogan and finish the sentence by saying in November "let them be gone." Legitimate rational is OK but the reality is we are being given the same old political run around and its taking us no where fast—we are dead last.

I'm writing this because my wife and I really want to know what the h*&& is going on and I'm sure we are not alone. Somebody needs to start quick, fast, and in a hurry doing their homework to get that money into our system where it can do some good. I know what the problem is, this administration is still on island time and we all know what that means when it comes to being prompt and prepared. We are literally in a competition with 50 states, one Commonwealth, and three other territories and we are dead last—people with common sense can easily see we need to change our game plan and some of our personnel in the front office.

As a teacher one of the things we must do is plan our lessons and do our homework to be prepared and as students we are taught to do our homework and always plan ahead for our career. I'm sure the governor and his Cabinet did go to high school and finish but it seems they forgot the two most important life skills taught in school—do your homework and plan ahead. The sad thing is they have everyone else in the CNMI following them and depending on them and they don't have a plan and it is obvious they didn't do their homework. One of the jokes told to me by students at school is "what is the difference between Dr. King and our governor? Dr. King had a dream and our governor doesn't have a clue." Well even the Bible tells us we can learn from our children and I think this time we need to listen.

Why isn't there a plan to help offset the cost of our power which I know everyone in the world can justify now? Pointing the finger at NMC, the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., the Ports Authority, and Public School System saying they are not under the executive branch is a lie, not rational when there are Cabinet position to govern over each of these public agencies—what are they getting paid for, to watch and do nothing.

I always tell my students "a failure to plan is a plan for failure" and the rational offered by this administration doesn't match or justify the reality when the CNMI is dead last at spending free money. Heck we could have used some of the existing plans in other states but you know in the CNMI there is a tradition to try and reinvent the wheel because we are so special and unique. Well we are proving our uniqueness and we are coming in dead last with that kind of attitude. Our leaders had better learn quick fast and in a hurry how to play this federal political leadership game or we will remain in last place. We are apart of the federal system not just our own commonwealth system and that requires us to be consistent (wages and immigration) with other parts of the system and to compete with other parts of the system within our nation.

I just pray that who ever wins will have done their homework and will hit the ground running in January with a real plan. Speaking of homework and plans, I have heard the GOP has combined the H & A platform with a plan to work as a real team and they are coming out with their newly completed platform. Well once they release their plan everyone who processes real civic virtue and really cares more about the CNMI over their personal relationships and preferences should compare all the plans before they vote. Get informed and you will KNOW without a doubt who to vote for in November. One people, one direction for leadership that has done their homework with a plan—everyone in the CNMI is depending on YOU to VOTE smart and not with your heart in November!

Ambrose Bennett
Kagman

Sick and tired what's going on CUC

We have been a resident of the village Agkag which is next to Capitol Hill for about 30 years now. All my life that I have resided in Agkag and I never had this problem, what problem you may ask WATER.

The water situation in Agkag is getting worse by worse I mean no water, taya hanum, walana tubic. I remember the Agkag distribution system used to be the best on island, water service was 24-7. Now CUC seems to be struggling to deliver water to my region with the most ridiculous, absurd, inconsistent water hours in this galaxy. I think Mars has better water service. Let me give an example of the very inconsistent schedule. What am about to mention may change very quickly before you can even say CUC.

Monday to Friday water goes on 6am turn off about 8pm then from Friday to Sunday zero water. Or sometimes Monday water goes on 6am, off by 12pm, Tuesday and Wednesday zero water, Thursday to Friday it's water 24 hours, then Friday to Sunday zero water again? The one thing that really pissed me off is the weekend before school starts we did not have water since that Friday all the way to Monday. They did turn on the water Monday at 3pm for about three hours only. Not nearly enough time at all to wash and dry the kids clothes for school.

Sometimes I ask myself how do you turn on the water consistently at times then go cold turkey? Definitely something else is going on and I want an answer. Many times I called trouble desk and all I get is a lot of B.S. (Better Speculate). Pump is broken, tank is empty, their fixing it, bla, bla, bla. I don't t believe them anymore SICK AND TIRED WHAT'S GOING ON!

CUC, if you were to turn off the water at the very, very least be consistent because you are driving me crazy with your stupid schedule and am pretty sure my neighbors feel the same.

What am about to say next is very ludicrous. Numerous times when were waterless we would turn to nearby water companies that sell, yes you guest it CUC water. We normally purchase 500 gallons for $20. I am buying CUC water from a middle man that CUC allows when in the first place that water should have been prioritized for the residents, families, and the community. Who knows these companies are filling thousands of gallons of city water therefore resulting in the shortage? Something is really, really wrong with this picture.

CUC has come out in the media of how successful they are in pressurizing the distribution system and providing 24-hour water service to Garapan, CK, Susupe, finally! This is great but as other regions move forward Agkag is going backward and it's going down hill not improving but regressing. I know CUC invested thousands if not millions of dollars in upgrading about 13 wells around Agkag to increase their output and also renovated fixed leaks at the Capital Hill reservoir. What happen to the water that supposed to follow? It being the same dry, wet, hot, cold, you name it season still don't have water.

Last and I hope this will be the least the next time you issue your consumer confidence report don't put down water service from 0430-1200. Please be realistic about your schedules and have courtesy to inform the people that there will be no water, so in that way they can be prepared to fill up their tanks and buckets. Don't just leave us wondering!

Glenn and Maryann Arriola
Akgag, Capitol Hill

Lost & found keys

We've found keys with a leather Harley Davidson emblem/key chain. If this sounds like keys that you lost, please call 256-0243.

Katie Busenkell
Via e-mail

Business

State budgets get adrenaline shot from Clunkers

WASHINGTON (AP)—Struggling states and towns got a dose of badly needed money this summer from a Cash for Clunkers program that poured hundreds of millions of dollars of tax revenue into their budgets.

Now, like the auto industry, recession-ravaged governments are seeing revenue fall off as car buyers take a breather from the frenzied sales of July and August. That means less money for schools, roads, public safety and other projects that get much of their funding from sales tax collections.

And while officials welcomed the shot in the arm, the extra clunkers money won't come close to filling the gaping holes in their budgets or do much to solve the worst revenue downturn in decades.

AP

In this Sept. 12, 2009 file photo, vehicles turned in during the Cash for Clunkers program are seen at the Riverside Auto Mall in Marquette, Mich.

"It is chump change," said David Zin, an economist with the Michigan state senate's fiscal agency.

State and city officials say their budget problems are too severe for one government program to fix.

"Fifty-thousand is not to be sneezed at," Dean Rich, finance director of O'Fallon, Ill., said of the city's expected tax gain from its 16 car dealerships. But it's not enough to prevent a job freeze and cuts to capital projects for the town of 29,000 people.

"It's not the windfall that is going to fix the $1 million shortage we have this year," he said.

Like most governments, O'Fallon suffered during the recession as people facing job losses, reduced pay, lost homes and general unease over the economy snapped their wallets shut. That means big drops in sales tax, which makes up around half of many state budgets. Sales of cars and trucks, big-ticket items with high price tags, are a big component of sales tax collections.

Cash for Clunkers held some promise—customers bought nearly 700,000 new vehicles during late July and August, taking advantage of rebates of up to $4,500 on new cars in return for trading in their older vehicles. The program ended up tripling the size of its original $1 billion price tag due to its broad popularity. For government budget offices, that represented some rare good news.

The auto forecaster Edmunds.com estimated that the average clunker sales price was $26,321, meaning roughly $18 billion worth of new vehicles were sold under the program. Multiplied by the average combined state and local sales tax of 7.5 percent, the total tax bill amounts to a loose estimate of $1.36 billion.

But here's some perspective—the budget shortfall of Michigan alone, the symbolic heartland of the U.S. auto industry, amounts to $2.8 billion. And it pales in comparison to the $240 billion that states collected in total general sales taxes in 2008.

"That's more than a drop in the bucket ... but not much more for state budgets," said Robert Ward, director of fiscal studies for the Rockefeller Institute of Government in New York.

The taxes brought in by clunkers offered a summer shot of adrenaline for most states. The funds—often earmarked for school aid, highway repairs and law enforcement—came at a time when they were struggling with big shortfalls.

Kentucky reported that clunkers' taxes propped up its Road Fund, which supports the state's network of roadways.

The Great Recession: The numbers tell the story

NEW YORK (AP)—A year ago this weekend, the Dow Jones industrial average had just finished a slow-motion crash. Over eight days, it fell 2,400 points, or 22 percent, and stood at 8,451.

One year later, the Dow is at 9,865. It's up 51 percent from a 12-year low of 6,547 on March 9—when some investors feared the financial world was coming to an end.

But the complete story of the Dow's journey since the economy soured goes back a little further. Two years ago this week, on Oct. 7, 2007, the Dow set its record high of 14,164.

What followed was a three-act play. For five months, from October 2007 through the collapse of investment bank Bear Stearns in mid-March 2008, the Dow fell 2,000 points in an orderly fashion as investors anticipated a garden-variety recession. From mid-March until Labor Day, the Dow rose and fell but was little changed. Right after Labor Day, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, Lehman Brothers and AIG failed over 10 days. The credit markets froze, and investors panicked, fearing another Great Depression. There were rallies amid the downward spiral that ensued, but over six months—until the low on March 9—the Dow fell 5,000 points.

So where do we stand today?

The seven-month rally since March has yet to wipe away all the losses, but few expected that the Dow would be edging back to 10,000 so soon. Unemployment is close to 10 percent, but other parts of the economy are stabilizing. Consumers are still hunkered down, but retail sales showed a slight gain in September. The panic of last fall has been replaced by the resignation that the worst is over but it might be years before the economy booms again.

"The problems that we're dealing with—there's a little bit less urgency," says Alan Levenson, chief economist at T. Rowe Price Associates. "We've stopped what could have been fatal bleeding."

Solar power outshining Colorado's gas industry

DURANGO, Colo. (AP)—The sun had just crested the distant ridge of the Rocky Mountains, but already it was producing enough power for the electric meter on the side of the Smiley Building to spin backward.

For the Shaw brothers, who converted the downtown arts building and community center into a miniature solar power plant two years ago, each reverse rotation subtracts from their monthly electric bill. It also means the building at that moment is producing more electricity from the sun than it needs.

"Backward is good," said John Shaw, who now runs Shaw Solar and Energy Conservation, a local solar installation company.

Good for whom?

As La Plata County in southwestern Colorado looks to shift to cleaner sources of energy, solar is becoming the power source of choice even though it still produces only a small fraction of the region's electricity. It's being nudged along by tax credits and rebates, a growing concern about the gases heating up the planet, and the region's plentiful sunshine.

The natural gas industry, which produces more gas here than nearly every other county in Colorado, has been relegated to the shadows.

Tougher state environmental regulations and lower natural gas prices have slowed many new drilling permits. As a result, production—and the jobs that come with it—have leveled off.

With the county and city drawing up plans to reduce the emissions blamed for global warming and Congress weighing the first mandatory limits, the industry once again finds itself on the losing side of the debate.

Investors to companies: Show us higher sales

NEW YORK (AP)—It has been clear for some time that business is getting better. The coming week will give investors an idea of how much.

As earnings reports start to flow in for the July-September quarter, investors are likely to be more exacting than they were a few months ago, when they were pleased by companies' better-than-expected profits for the second quarter. Those results largely came from heavy cost-cutting. This time, investors want signs that companies are finding ways to bring in more money.

"Cost-cutting is OK for a little while and to some degree it's good for companies to get in shape. Eventually we need to see the earnings coming from business improving," said Jason Pride, director of research at Haverford Investments in Radnor, Pa.

Analysts note that even modest increases in revenue could translate to big profit increases because companies have slashed costs. The extra revenue would flow right into the profit column.

Alcoa Inc., which reported its results last week, might be an example of what's to come. The aluminum maker had a surprise profit that was due in part to cost-cutting, but also in better sales to automakers.

AP

In this April 14, 2008 file photo, a sign is shown in front of Intel Corp. headquarters in Santa Clara, Calif.

Michael Sheldon, chief market strategist at RDM Financial, said an improvement in earnings could reassure investors that the market's seven-month rally has been justified. He said strong numbers could give stocks new fuel. The Standard & Poor's 500 index is up 58.4 percent since hitting a 12-year low in March.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Japan suspends beef imports from US plant

TOKYO (AP)—Japan suspended beef shipments from an American meatpacker Saturday over its failure to remove cattle parts banned under a bilateral agreement, as officials here raised concerns about U.S. safeguards against mad cow disease. Japanese quarantine inspectors found bovine spinal columns in one of 732 boxes shipped from Tyson Fresh Meats Inc., which arrived in Japan in late September, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said. The box contained 35 pounds (16 kilograms) of chilled short loin with spinal bones, which were not released commercially, said ministry official Goshi Nakata. The suspension only affects Tyson's factory in Lexington, Nebraska, one of 46 meatpacking plants approved to export beef to Japan.

Qatar fund boosts stake in London property company

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Qatar's sovereign wealth fund said Saturday it has become the biggest shareholder in the company that owns much of London's Canary Wharf business district, highlighting a renewed appetite by Gulf investors for property in well-established markets. Qatar Holding said it has increased its holding to 24 percent of the ordinary shares of the real estate company, Songbird Estates PLC. It said its entire investment in Songbird now stands at more than 350 million pounds, or $559 million.

Legal fight looms over NYC's Tavern on the Green

NEW YORK (AP)—A legal fight is looming in New York City over Tavern on the Green, the Central Park restaurant that has been a tourist destination since the 1930s. The dispute revolves around the restaurant's name. The LeRoy family has held the "Tavern on the Green" trademark for decades. They've operated the restaurant since the 1970s, but are expected to lose control at the end of the year when the city brings in a new company to run it. The city owns the building and claims it's the sole owner of the name, noting that the restaurant had been called "Tavern on the Green" for nearly 40 years before the LeRoys got involved. The family says it will defend its ownership of the name in court.

Nation

Obama reaffirms will end 'don't ask, don't tell'

President Barack Obama, speaks at the Human Rights Campaign national dinner, Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, in Washington.

AP

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama reaffirmed his campaign pledge to end the ban on homosexuals serving openly in the military in a speech Saturday, but offered no timetable or specifics for acting on that promise.

He acknowledged to a cheering crowd that some policy changes he promised on the campaign trail are not coming as quickly as they expected.

"I will end 'don't ask-don't tell,'" Obama said to a standing ovation from the crowd of about 3,000 at the annual dinner of the Human Rights Campaign, a gay civil rights advocacy group.

The law was passed by Congress in 1993 and signed by President Bill Clinton, who also promised to repeal the ban on homosexuals in the military but was blunted by opposition in the military and Congress. Obama said he's working with Pentagon and congressional leaders on ending the policy.

"We should not be punishing patriotic Americans who have stepped forward to serve the country," Obama said. "We should be celebrating their willingness to step forward and show such courage ... especially when we are fighting two wars."

Obama said it was no secret "our progress may be taking longer than you'd like." He followed this by asking supporters to trust his administration's course.

"I also appreciate that many of you don't believe progress has come fast enough," Obama said. "Do not doubt the direction we are heading and the destination we will reach."

Some advocates said they already have heard Obama's promises—they just want to hear a timeline. Cleve Jones, a pioneer activist and creator of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, said Obama delivered a brilliant speech, but added "it lacked the answer to our most pressing question, which is when."

Obama: One more push for health care cooperation

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama sees both "unprecedented consensus" from outside Congress on his drive to remake the nation's health care system and obstructionism by some on Capitol Hill.

"The historic movement to bring real, meaningful health insurance reform to the American people gathered momentum this week as we approach the final days of this debate," Obama said Saturday in his weekly radio and Internet video address.

ON THE NET
Obama address: http://www.whitehouse.gov

The consensus "includes everyone from doctors and nurses to hospitals and drug manufacturers"—even Republican governors and former GOP lawmakers, Obama said.

It does not extend to congressional Republicans, however, as nearly all of them oppose the Democrats' health care proposals.

The president noted that California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, former Senate Majority Leaders Bob Dole and Bill Frist, all Republicans, and former Health and Human Service chiefs Louis Sullivan and Tommy Thompson, who both served in Republican administrations, have all come out in favor of overhauling health care, even though they differ on some specifics.

Dole said in an interview on the Fox News Channel late in the week that he has not endorsed any plan but is recommending that congressional Republicans "stay in the game" so they can have more impact on the final legislation through compromise and amendments.

"These distinguished leaders understand that health insurance reform isn't a Democratic issue or a Republican issue, but an American issue that demands a solution," Obama said.

Democrats have made significant strides since Labor Day, when they returned to the Capitol after an August spent absorbing attacks from noisy conservative critics over health care.

A health care bill soon to emerge from the Senate Finance Committee is the only one judged to meet Obama's conditions for expanding insurance coverage without raising the federal deficit, while also slowing the rise in medical costs.

Columbine killer's mom: 'No inkling' son suicidal

DENVER (AP)—In the first detailed public remarks by any parent of the two Columbine killers, Dylan Klebold's mother says she had no idea her son was suicidal until she read his journals after the 1999 high school massacre.

Susan Klebold's essay in next month's issue of O, The Oprah Magazine, says she is still struggling to make sense of what happened when her son and Eric Harris killed 12 students and a teacher in the shooting rampage at Columbine High School in suburban Denver. Twenty-one people were injured before Klebold and Harris killed themselves.

"For the rest of my life, I will be haunted by the horror and anguish Dylan caused," she wrote. "I cannot look at a child in a grocery store or on the street without thinking about how my son's schoolmates spent the last moments of their lives. Dylan changed everything I believed about myself, about God, about family, and about love."

AP

This 1998 file yearbook photo from Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. shows Dylan Klebold.

The killers' parents have repeatedly declined to talk about the massacre. They gave depositions in a lawsuit filed by families of the victims, but a judge in 2007 sealed them for 20 years after the lawsuit was settled out of court.

In her essay, Susan Klebold wrote that she didn't know her son was so disturbed.

Sweat lodge victim's family says she was in shape

PRESCOTT, Ariz. (AP)—A 38-year-old New York woman who died after sitting in a sauna-like sweat lodge at a scenic Arizona resort was an avid surfer and hiker who was "in top shape," took self-improvement seriously and had a passion for art, a family spokesman said.

Kirby Brown of Westtown, N.Y., was one of two people who died Thursday evening after being overcome in the crudely built hut during a spiritual cleansing ceremony. Authorities on Saturday identified the other victim as 40-year-old James Shore of Milwaukee, who served as director of business development at an Internet marketing company in his hometown.

Nineteen other people were taken to hospitals, suffering from burns, dehydration, respiratory arrest, kidney failure or elevated body temperature. Most were soon released, but one remained in critical condition Saturday.

Brown had no pre-existing health conditions that would have kept her from participating in an otherwise safe activity, said cousin and family spokesman Tom McFeeley. That two people died and 19 others became ill at the Angel Valley Retreat Center indicates that "something went horribly wrong."

"Our only thought is shock, sadness and surprise," McFeeley said. "There will be plenty of time to react to the truth of what happened here, but we believe it is pointless to be angry or to place blame or to make assumptions before we understand what occurred here."

ACROSS THE NATION

1 adult killed, several students hurt in ID crash

INKOM, Idaho (AP)—A bus carrying a celebrated Utah high school band swerved off an Idaho interstate and crashed on its side Saturday night, killing an instructor and injuring some students, police and a school official said. The students were rushed by helicopter ambulance to a hospital in Pocatello, John Miller, director of the American Fork, Utah, high school band, told The Associated Press. He said he didn't know how many students were hurt or how seriously. Idaho state police said a preliminary investigation showed that the bus driver had a medical condition that caused the crash. The police did not immediately provide more details.

Unknown Civil War soldier reburied in Tennessee

FRANKLIN, Tenn. (AP)—A Civil War soldier whose remains were found in a battlefield grave last spring was reburied Saturday by admirers who knew neither his name nor even what side he fought on. Among the history buffs paying tribute to him were two old men whose fathers fought on opposing sides in the War Between the States. "This soldier represents all of the soldiers, the thousands that were lost and are still buried across the South," said Robin Hood, chairman of the Franklin Battlefield Task Force that organized the event. It's unknown which side the soldier fought on when he was among the nearly 2,000 killed in the 1864 Battle of Franklin. Construction workers happened upon the anonymous soldier's shallow grave in May.

Firefighters gain full control of big Calif. blaze

WRIGHTWOOD, Calif. (AP)—A wildfire that blackened more than 11 square miles of brush and timber and destroyed at least five structures is now under control. U.S. Forest Service spokesman John Miller says firefighters gained full control of the Sheep Fire on Saturday night. Residents who were evacuated after the blaze broke out Oct. 3 have since returned to their homes. The general public is being kept out of the burned area, however, because hot spots remain. Miller says the public probably won't be allowed to return for several weeks. The cause of the fire, which broke out near a popular resort area 70 miles northeast of Los Angeles, is under investigation.

Dam breaching celebrated on famed Rogue River

ROGUE RIVER, Ore. (AP)—The wild and scenic Rogue River has become even wilder with the demolition of a dam that had hindered passage of salmon and steelhead to their spawning grounds for 88 years. A flotilla of some 80 people in rafts, driftboats and kayaks celebrated the breaching of the Savage Rapids Dam on Saturday by floating through the remains of the concrete structure in southwest Oregon. Among them was Jim Martin, rowing his own driftboat. His first job as a young fisheries biologist for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife was monitoring how many salmon and steelhead were killed each year by the irrigation dam.

Asia

China says time to act on NKorea disarmament talks

BEIJING (AP)—North Korea appears keen to improve ties with the U.S. and its neighbors in Asia and perhaps rejoin nuclear disarmament talks, China's premier said Saturday, urging fellow leaders not to let the opportunity slip away.

"We need to seize the opportunity and make the most of it," Premier Wen Jiabao told a news conference after a meeting with leaders from Japan and South Korea. "If we miss this opportunity, we might later have to do more than we should."

These were Wen's first public comments on a visit last week to Pyongyang, where he said he met for 10 hours with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il. China is reclusive North Korea's chief ally and source of economic aid.

His upbeat remarks are the latest indication that the North is shifting tack after earlier this year pulling out of six-nation disarmament talks and conducting nuclear and missile tests. But the North says it first wants direct talks with the United States before re-entering the multilateral negotiations.

The North's nuclear program was a key topic as Wen, Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama and South Korean President Lee Myung-bak met in Beijing for an annual summit Saturday. The East Asian nations agreed to work together on the nuclear issue and jointly tackle other challenges, such as climate change and expanding trade and investment ties as they move toward closer regional integration.

Wen said his deepest impression after his talks with Kim was that the North wants to improve relations with the United States as well as Japan and South Korea.

AP

A South Korean conservative activist holds a balloon with radios and leaflets denouncing North Korean leader Kim Jong Il at the Imjingak Pavilion near the border village of the Panmunjom (DMZ) that separates the two Koreas since the Korean War, in Paju, north of Seoul, South Korea, Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009.

Afghan official: Foreigners bolstering Taliban

KABUL (AP)—Thousands of foreign fighters have poured into Afghanistan to bolster the Taliban insurgency, the country's defense minister said Saturday as he called for more international troops.

The remarks come as the U.S. debates whether to substantially increase its forces in Afghanistan or to conduct a more limited campaign focused on targeting al-Qaida figures—most of whom are believed to be in neighboring Pakistan.

The minister's comments hit on a key worry of the United States—that not sending enough troops to Afghanistan will open the door back up to al-Qaida. They also suggest that the Afghan government is nervous about the U.S. commitment amid talk of changing the strategy and a surge in violence in recent months.

World

Iraqis take to streets to protest government

BAGHDAD (AP)—Hundreds took to the streets Saturday throughout Iraq to demand open elections and improved public services, revealing a growing discontent among Iraqis that is overshadowing concerns about the ability of Iraqi forces to take over from withdrawing American troops.

Low oil prices have left the Iraqi government struggling to restore infrastructure after years of neglect, corruption and insurgent attacks, as well as to rebuild their security forces before a planned American withdrawal in 2011.

About 200 demonstrators took to the streets in central Baghdad, chanting: "No water, no electricity in the country of oil and the two rivers," a reference to Iraq's ancient name.

Protester Najim Abid said he and others were calling on the Iraqi government and international aid organizations to take immediate action to improve conditions for Iraqis.

"They must step in and save the Iraqi people, who are suffering because of poverty and deprivation," said Abid, 52, a retired government worker.

The lack of clean water and electricity have proven to be a leading issue in January's national elections for Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who has campaigned on the issue of improved security. In recent days, though, al-Maliki has said rebuilding infrastructure rather than building up Iraqi forces will take priority during the next budget year.

Iraq was twice forced this

UN recovers 11 victims from Haiti plane crash

FONDS-PARISIEN, Haiti (AP)—U.N. helicopters on Saturday reached the remote site of a plane crash that killed 11 peacekeepers when a surveillance flight slammed into a mountain in eastern Haiti.

All onboard died after the CASA C-212 twin engine turboprop aircraft went down Friday afternoon near the border with the Dominican Republic, about 30 miles (45 kilometers) from the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince.

The plane came to rest on an isolated mountainside near a farming town called Peyi Mouri, meaning "dead country" in Haitian Creole.

Two U.N. helicopters were able to land near the site Saturday morning and peacekeepers began the process of bringing bodies back to Port-au-Prince, mission spokesman David Wimhurst said.

The victims were Uruguayan and Jordanian troops serving with the 9,000-strong U.N. peacekeeping force that has been in Haiti since a 2004 rebellion ousted former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Six Uruguayan soldiers were killed in the crash, including the pilot and co-pilot, Uruguay's minister of defense told local media.

Wimhurst would not speculate on when results of an investigation into the cause of the crash would become available.

Turkey, Armenia sign historic accord

ZURICH (AP)—Turkey and Armenia signed a landmark agreement Saturday to establish diplomatic relations and open their sealed border after a century of enmity, as U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton helped the two sides clear a last-minute snag.

The contentious issue of whether the killing of up to 1.5 million Armenians during the final days of the Ottoman Empire amounted to genocide is only hinted at in the agreement.

"There were several times when I said to all of the parties involved that this is too important," Clinton said. "This has to be seen through. We have come too far. All of the work that has gone into the protocols should not be walked away from."

The Turkish and Armenian foreign ministers signed the accord in the Swiss city of Zurich after a dispute over the final statements they would make. In the end, the signing took place about three hours later than scheduled and there were no spoken statements.

Clinton and mediators from Switzerland intervened to help broker a solution, U.S. officials said on condition of anonymity, in keeping with State Department regulations. Better ties between Turkey, a regional heavyweight, and poor, landlocked Armenia have been a priority for President Barack Obama, and Clinton had flown to Switzerland to witness the signing, not help close the deal.

ASIAN BRIEFS

US troops help Philippines as storm toll rises

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The U.S. military trucked in supplies and marshaled helicopters and Navy ships as the Philippines struggled with the aftermath of back-to-back storms that have left more than 600 dead. After pulling six people from landslides late Thursday and early Friday, Filipino rescuers said they remained hopeful of locating more survivors in the stricken north of the country, but retrieved only bodies on Saturday. With roads blocked and bridges washed away, the Philippine government's resources have been stretched thin. Officials have asked U.S. troops in the country for an annual military exercise to extend relief operations. Troops from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, based in Okinawa, Japan, had just finished rescue and cleanup work around the Manila, which experienced the worst flooding in over four decades after Tropical Storm Ketsana dumped record rains Sept. 26. That disaster displaced about 1 million people and killed 337 in the capital and surrounding provinces. More than 287,000 remain in evacuation centers.

Did self-help course lead to woman's suicide?

SYDNEY (AP)—The young woman stood naked in her downtown office building, swaying next to an open window. Her final words were sudden and calm: "I know I am going to jump." Rebekah Lawrence burst into song and leaped out the window. Lawrence died that day. But her mind had begun to show cracks a few days before, during an intense self-help seminar called The Turning Point. The course had pledged to change her life. Instead, some say, it led to her death. For nearly 40 years, the mental health community has kept a wary eye on the explosion of self-help groups around the world. But despite concerns they can push the fragile too hard, too fast, these groups operate unmonitored and unregulated, most run by people with no formal mental health training.

17 die as river ferry sinks in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—An overloaded river ferry capsized on its way to a Buddhist ceremony in Cambodia, killing 17 passengers in a tributary of the Mekong River, an official said Sunday. The boat was crammed with 30 passengers when it capsized in midstream in northeastern Kratie province, said Police Maj. Leng Sarum. He said 13 passengers were rescued after the accident, which happened while the boat was headed to a ceremony at a Buddhist temple Saturday night. "There was no storm or heavy rain when the boat sank. The accident happened because it was overloaded with passengers," the officer said, speaking by telephone near the site of the incident.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russian spacecraft with circus tycoon lands safely

MOSCOW (AP)—The Russian Soyuz capsule carrying Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberte and two other space travelers landed safely in Kazakhstan Sunday, ending the entertainment tycoon's mirthful space odyssey. Laliberte, who wore a bulbous clown nose during his stay aboard the International Space Station, was extracted from the tiny Soyuz capsule Sunday morning following its landing in the steppes of northern Kazakhstan. Laliberte returned to Earth with Russian cosmonaut Gennady Padalka and NASA astronaut Michael Barratt, several hours after their capsule left the International Space Station. Valery Lyndin, spokesman for Russian mission control, said the landing took place at 10:32 a.m. local time.

Seychelles captures 11 suspected pirates

PARIS (AP)—French soldiers successfully defended two fishing boats from capture by pirates in the Indian Ocean on Saturday, and 11 men suspected of involvement in the failed attack were pursued at sea and captured, officials said. The chain of events illustrated the teamwork in the international community to crack down on piracy in the Indian Ocean, where pirates cruise the waters searching for boats to hijack for ransoms. After French soldiers chased away the pirates, the coast guard of the Seychelles archipelago, south of where the attack took place, chased the assailants. The coast guard captured two boats—a small craft with eight men aboard and a larger ship carrying three that was the pirates' suspected mothership, said Jacqueline Sherriff, chief press officer for the maritime unit of NATO in Northwood, outside London.

Ireland's Green Party votes to stay in government

DUBLIN (AP)—Members of Ireland's environmentalist Green Party voted overwhelmingly on Saturday to stay in Prime Minister Brian Cowen's coalition government as it battles a runaway deficit, surging unemployment and crippled banks. Defeat for the Green leaders' pro-government motion at a special party conference would have torpedoed Cowen's 2-year-old coalition and forced Ireland into an early parliamentary election. But grass-roots Green members voted 523-99 to support a package of revised government policies and goals. That surpassed the two-thirds "yes" that the party required for the 43-page document, which was negotiated over nine days and completed Friday night—barely in time for the Green gathering.

Health & Fitness

DIY equipment is giving workouts a boost

By VICKY HALLETT
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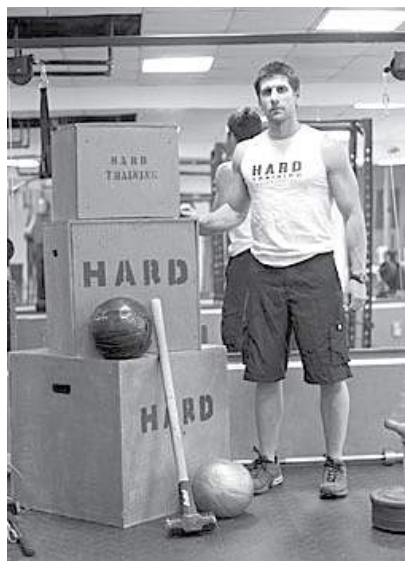


It's going to take an impossibly grueling workout for anyone using the equipment at Hard Training Club to match the sweat that went into making it. That's because the Washington gym, which opened last month, has an unusual feature in this era of increasingly fancy-pants fitness facilities: Virtually everything in the place is homemade.

The heavy-duty machines were welded by hand in Baltimore, and most of the other stuff was constructed personally by the Hard team, led by founder Mark Schuler. While taking me on a tour of the place, he proudly points out the ab board, a tilted plank of wood with a T-shaped piece of pipe at one end to hold your feet. A similar pipe connected to used weight plates form what Schuler calls "T-grips." "It can do most of what a kettlebell can," he explains. Then there are the red boxes with the word "Hard" spray painted on them. "We made different sizes for different capabilities—for step-ups, box jumps," he says, lifting one up, so I can spy design sketches on the underside.

Barbells, also made from salvaged parts, sit on a stand constructed from plumbing pipe. The same material was attached to the ceiling for a monkey bars/chin-up bar hybrid that Schuler leaps up to grab. "They're very multi-purpose," he says, swinging.

Not counting the cost of man-hours, it's definitely cheaper to put a gym together this way. And it might serve as an inspiration for handymen and women who are on the lookout for new projects. But why go so DIY? Partially, he says, it proves they're serious about what they do. "We wanted to create the atmosphere of true training. It shows the passion. We're knee-deep in this stuff," he says. But the thrill goes beyond the aesthetic: "I think it's one of those things that gives you a sense of accomplishment. It's really cool to see it in motion and at work."

It sure was a lot of work that started with figuring out how to pack training benefits beyond what you can get with traditional weight equipment in a small space. Certain pieces required more imagination than anything else. There's a tire and a sledgehammer to swing at it, a rope that hangs in the stairwell between the two floors for extra length, and X's painted on the wall so exercisers can target their medicine ball throws.

But other equipment demanded serious tool time. Take those medicine balls, for instance. The 20-pounders at Hard start life as cheap basketballs that go under the knife and then get filled with sand. Schuler heals the cuts with Liquid Nails ("It shuts it like a Band-Aid") and then duct tapes the heck out of them. The end result is an improvement over most commercial brands because they don't bounce, hence they can be used for an exercise called "slam ball," which involves smacking a ball to the ground with all of your power, scooping it up and repeating. Plus, medicine balls are the first step toward making tornado balls, another project Schuler hopes to tackle. The idea is to enclose the ball in a basketball net and run a string from one side so you can whip it around.

Although the whole space is filled with those sorts of inventions, Schuler is quick to refuse credit for any of them. He's developed his techniques by swapping secrets with other folks in the industry, who've tinkered away for years. `There's a whole culture of people who love making their own stuff and thinking outside the box," he says.

That includes Jerry Hill, owner of CrossFit Old Town, who certainly sees the appeal in homemade. "It creates that old garage feeling," he says. And in CrossFit, a conditioning program that emphasizes constantly challenging your body in creative ways, there's nothing more desirable. "One day, I'm going back to basics again," he vows, reminiscing about the days when he used to train clients under Interstate 95 in Philadelphia and also made his own medicine balls. (Instead of Liquid Nails and duct tape, he sealed up his punctured basketballs with a tire repair kit.)

The demands of his current facility make spending hours funneling sand impractical, so he has gone more commercial with his equipment, but Hill still has some DIY pieces in his arsenal, including a "slosh pipe," an eight-foot-long PVC pipe filled three-quarters with water and capped on the ends. "The water shifts inside so you have to use your stabilizers," he explains.

And one thing Hill will probably never buy are parallettes, which are a scaled-down, miniature version of parallel bars from gymnastics. In CrossFit, they're used for such moves as L-sits and handstand push-ups, and although you can buy them, Hill says his come exclusively from parallette-making parties. "I need to throw another one soon because one of ours broke when someone dropped a barbell on it," he says.

If all of this sounds a little too Home Depot for you, join the club. But even I—who struggles putting together Ikea furniture—have discovered a DIY piece of equipment I can "make." Or, if you insist on being all technical about it, "open."

When eating right is a grass-roots effort

By JENNIFER LARUE HUGET
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

Most everyone agrees: Americans are too fat. We eat too much salty, sugary, fatty food. And our diets are making us unhealthy, fostering chronic conditions such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer that exact enormous personal and societal prices.

Tahar

As for how to go about addressing and even reversing those situations, opinions differ.

Some propose broad government actions aimed at shaping Americans' food habits by enacting laws and levying taxes. Those who favor a soda tax, for instance, hope that making people pay more for soft drinks will encourage them to consume less. Plus, they say revenue could go toward subsidizing production of healthful foods or to support community-based efforts to promote healthful eating.

Others believe in working from the ground up, teaching people, one by one, the value of sound nutrition and how to avail themselves of healthful foods.

Juliette Tahar is among the latter.

Tahar, a former private chef and caterer, runs a nonprofit organization called Healthy Living, aimed at showing the ways in which good food can enrich life, reflect culture and history and even enhance spirituality, even as it contributes to our physical well-being. Her fee-based programs, for which anyone can pay to hear Tahar talk about food and take part in a cooking demonstration, help support the outreach work she does for free at community centers and shelters in the Washington area; a small number of grants cover the rest. (Tahar says she donates her time.)

Having lived in West Africa until she was 16, Tahar grew up in an atmosphere where "food was fresh, abundant and part of life," she says. "Then I came to the States. In the late 1960s in Washington, we experienced our own food desert." The lack of access to the kinds of food she'd grown accustomed to eating "awakened a desire," she says. "Where can I get fresh food?"

In many ways, much of Washington remains a "food desert," a term used to describe areas where access to affordable, nutritious food is limited (usually by a dearth of grocery stores and of transportation options). A report issued in June by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service includes a map of Washington's food deserts. It coincides pretty closely with the areas where Tahar offers her outreach programs.

Tahar disagrees with the notion that unhealthful eating stems solely from lack of money. "With all due respect, it's not an issue of income." Instead, she believes people eat what they have easy access to—and what they know about. A boy who attended one of her programs, she says, "did not know you could go to Safeway and get an apple." Similarly, she frequently meets "people who are still cooking with canned food. They don't know how to cook with fresh food because they have no access to it."

When working with women at homeless shelters, Tahar tries to help them see "how they can take baby steps toward making healthful choices in their life, even if they have a tiny budget." If there is a kitchen, she picks one resident as an assistant chef, and together they make a meal for the group, using simple recipes and fresh ingredients. One recent meal featured fall lentil soup, quinoa pilaf with mushrooms, steamed kale and butternut squash pie

As they cook, they discuss what food they're cooking (the value of whole grains, for example) and related concerns. "Some of them have health issues, and they want to better understand which food might best support their recovery," she said.

If no kitchen is available, Tahar whips up a quick snack such as a couscous salad, on her own, and the discussion goes on.

"They're learning what goes into the food they buy," Tahar says. "If they have a dollar to buy a snack, maybe they'll learn to choose fruit rather than a salty snack, water instead of a soda ... I also bring in the idea of seasonal foods, help them see what's out there. A lot of them have never eaten fresh food."

Though she follows macrobiotic principles (which emphasize whole, locally grown foods and simple cooking methods) in her diet, Tahar doesn't impose them on others. "I don't tell people what to eat. I work with people, making them responsible for their choices." Many of the women she has worked with at shelters have chosen to become vegetarians, she said. "I think it's wiser for people to come to a decision made from the space within. They may say, `I need a little bit of fish, a little meat,' (now and then). It's when we eat mindlessly—that's when trouble begins." Most of all, she tries to help people figure out why they eat what they do. "That comfort food you eat is a substitute for what?"

How it feels to be a retired football player

(c) 2009, The Washington Post

Last week brought the news that retired NFL players suffer from dementia and other memory-related problems at a much higher rate than the general population.

But that was just one of the interesting health findings included in a new University of Michigan study commissioned by the NFL. The report compared retired football players with American men of the same age and race. Here are some of the findings from the telephone survey of 1,063 retired NFL players and how their health compares with that of men older than 50:

DEPRESSION

The study asked: "Have you ever in your life had a period of time lasting several days or longer when most of the time you were very irritable, grumpy or in a bad mood?"

- U.S. men older than 50: 22.4 percent
- NFL retirees older than 50: 44.2 percent

ANGER

The study asked, "Have you ever had attacks of anger where all of a sudden you lost control and tried to hit or hurt someone?"

- U.S. men older than 50: 18.4 percent
- NFL retirees older than 50: 9.4 percent

PAIN

Pain lasting most of the day, in any joint:

- U.S. men older than 50: 37.1 percent
- NFL retirees older than 50: 77.6 percent

LIMITATIONS ON MOVEMENT

Difficulty with ...

- Standing for two hours
- U.S. men older than 50: 22.3 percent
- NFL retirees older than 50: 52.4 percent

Stooping/bending/kneeling

- U.S. men older than 50: 24.2 percent
- NFL retirees older than 50: 57.2 percent

Reaching above the head

- U.S. men older than 50: 8.8 percent
- NFL retirees older than 50: 25.8 percent

Grasping small objects

- U.S. men older than 50: 6.8 percent
- NFL retirees older than 50: 21.7 percent

SOURCE: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

Life & Style

New Lincoln exhibit tells how NYC shaped his image

NEW YORK (AP)—Abraham Lincoln visited New York City only five times in his life, and only once as president, yet the growing 19th-century metropolis played a central role in burnishing his enduring public image.

That's the point of a new exhibition, "Lincoln and New York," that opened Friday at the New-York Historical Society on Manhattan's Upper West Side to celebrate the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth. The exhibition runs through March 25.

It begins with Lincoln's historic speech at Cooper Union in 1860 and the iconic Mathew Brady photograph taken the same day, more than two months before he won the Republican presidential nomination. The events led Lincoln later to state: "Brady and the Cooper Union speech made me President."

It concludes with his 1865 funeral procession down Broadway, an event attended by hundreds of thousands of mourners. Along the way, it traces New Yorkers' varied reactions to Lincoln, from veneration to vilification.

There are many other Lincoln bicentennial exhibitions around the nation, but the one thing they all miss, said Harold Holzer, the exhibition's chief historian, "is how Lincoln achieved the status he achieved, and how did it morph into something approaching secular sainthood over a period of only four years."

Filling six galleries, the exhibition shows how New York City's place as the center of media, commerce and finance enabled it to transform Lincoln's image "from the debater and jokester to a serious, learned, dignified politician fully capable of taking the country through what became the secession crisis," Holzer said.

During the 1860s, New York had 174 daily, weekly and monthly newspapers, all wielding huge influence over the emerging and changing political scene.

AP

A newspaper caricature Abraham Lincoln on display at the exhibition, "Lincoln and New York," at the New-York Historical Society, New York, Tuesday Oct. 6, 2009.

ON THE NET

New-York Historical Society: http://www.nyhistory.org

"Because of the power of the New York media and the influence of New York politicians, Lincoln's New York visits transformed him, from a prairie politician, and an ungainly one, into a serious alternative for the nomination of the presidency" in 1860, said Holzer, the author of numerous books on Lincoln, including "The Lincoln Image" and "Lincoln at Cooper Union."

Brady, the nation's most famous photographer, worked in Lower Manhattan, as did the leading engravers, printmakers, photographers and journalists—all churning out editorial cartoons, political commentary and caricatures on Lincoln.

Examples include those by famous lithographer Currier & Ives, which produced both beautiful portraits of Lincoln and vicious anti-Lincoln cartoons.

Many of the cartoons were racist and offensive. "You see that Lincoln is derided from many sides," said Kathleen Hulser, the museum's public historian, who was on the exhibition's curatorial team.

To help viewers understand some of the illustrations, a cartoon decoder—a pull-down screen that overlays the cartoon—identifies the figures and explains what their comments mean.

A video re-enactment of the Cooper Union speech with actor Sam Waterston as Lincoln; a copy of the original speech in which Lincoln discusses his views on slavery; the lectern he used; and funeral photographs and memorabilia are among the featured artifacts.

The exhibition also includes the most famous letter to the editor - Lincoln's reply to New York Tribune editor Horace Greeley's blistering editorial accusing the president of not issuing the Emancipation Proclamation sooner.

Parts of the exhibition are "immersive," allowing visitors to appear to walk into Cooper Union and hear Waterston delivering the address or into a Lower Manhattan tavern where visitors can hear the voices of people vilifying Lincoln for the war.

In the end, Lincoln's impact on New York also was significant, said Hulser. For example, she said, the state provided more men and material to the Union war effort than any other, despite the city's sometimes racist and violent resistance to Lincoln's policies.

Jasper Johns proofs on display at National Gallery

WASHINGTON (AP)—The National Gallery of Art, which is acquiring the extensive personal collection of artist Jasper Johns, will open an exhibit Sunday showing his working proofs as independent pieces of art for the first time.

"Editions with Additions: Working Proofs by Jasper Johns" includes 42 works on paper that show how Johns refined his technique and style over time. The small, two-room exhibit highlights his proofs from 1962 to 1997.

"I think you'll see a real shift in the complexity of the work," curator Ruth Fine said. "You're seeing, it seems to me, the evolution ... of one of the most fertile artistic minds of our time."

The museum announced in 2007 it would acquire about 1,700 proofs from Jasper Johns, making the gallery the largest institutional repository of his works. The collection includes almost all the memorable images associated with Johns from the postwar era—flags, targets, maps—and more recent compositions with references to works by earlier artists.

The artist's working proofs are prints on which Johns drew or painted additions during the working process. The collection on view includes etchings, lithographs and screenprints.

Among the proofs shown in the new exhibit are different versions of Johns' "The Seasons." In the fourth version, he cut apart used printing plates from past works to fit them together like a jigsaw puzzle to create a new image, Fine said.

AP

In this image courtesy of the National Gallery of Art, the piece, "Target with Four Faces" by Jasper Johns is seen.

Some of the works show motifs and symbols Johns repeats over time, such as silhouettes of his artistic predecessors Marcel Duchamp and Pablo Picasso, paying homage to their work.

The piece, "Red, Yellow, Blue," includes a fingerprint mark left by the artist as he played with color. He was experimenting with making the color darker in that area, Fine said, but also incorporating his fingerprint.

Johns was born in Augusta, Ga., in 1930 and studied art at the University of South Carolina before moving to New York.

The show will on view until April 2010.

Bluesman who recorded as Freddy Robinson dies

LANCASTER, Calif. (AP)—Bluesman Abu Talib, who recorded and toured with Ray Charles and Little Walter under his given name, Freddy Robinson, has died. He was 70.

His daughter, Linda Chaplin, said Talib died of cancer Thursday at a hospital in Lancaster, about 70 miles north of Los Angeles.

Talib was born Fred Robinson in Memphis, Tenn., and changed his name to Abu Talib in the 1970s when he converted to Islam.

Chaplin said her father first heard the blues when her grandfather, Otis Robinson, took him along to a "juke joint." He was too young to go in but he'd watch the musicians through a window.

He was inspired to play and improvised an instrument out of bailing wire attached to the wall of a barn when he was nine, she said.

His former manager, Vernell Jennings, said he saved his money and ordered his second guitar from the Sears catalog at age 13.

"He had that guitar his whole life and still played it. It was called Bessie," Jennings said.

Talib could play well by ear, and he was always in demand at clubs, Chaplin said. When he moved to Chicago, he had to go to school to learn how to read music.

He played with Ray Charles, Howlin' Wolf and pianist Monk Higgins and recorded and wrote several songs including "Black Fox," "At the Drive-In," "Bluesology" and the blues instrumental, "After Hours."

Chaplin said one of her father's favorite songs, "Sister Sharp Eye," was based on a real person he knew from childhood, a friend of his aunt's who used to run a gambling house and tell people that she had eyes in the back of her head to spot cheaters.

Jennings said Talib would tell funny stories between songs and have the audience in stitches.

"He had a song called 'Double Ugly' about his best friend who married an ugly girl, about how they had to hide all the mirrors. He had a great sense of humor," Jennings said.

Recently, he recorded a jingle for Southwest Airlines, and dressed up in a funky suit for the commercial, she said.

He had seven children with his first wife, Mary Robinson, who died, and one daughter with his second wife, Zakiyyah Talib.

ROCK HARD:
On being a female bodybuilder

NEW YORK (AP)—For Tennille Ray, maintaining her sculpted arms, 12-pack abs and muscled legs is a full-time job.

Ray is a professional bodybuilder in the figure division—which means she has eye-popping muscles but is still expected to be curvy and feminine. She has been competing in the World Natural Bodybuilding Federation for about a year, winning her debut and going on to be named Miss Universe at a competition held in Barbados earlier this year against more seasoned professionals.

Ray was fit before—she has been a personal trainer in New York since 2001—but she didn't consider a career in bodybuilding until a friend at her gym suggested it. Then, an overweight girl told Ray she was so pretty she wanted to see her in magazines—and that if Ray did it, the girl would get in shape, too.

"It really appealed to me, the idea that I could inspire this little girl," said Ray, who hopes eventually to use her winnings for a wellness center for children. So far she's earned more than $5,000.

Last spring, she signed up for a retreat held by a pro bodybuilder that taught some diet and exercise basics. But Ray had to refine her strategy as she went along.

The transformation was difficult. It took her about four months of intense, two-hour workouts and a serious amount of dietary restraint. Bodybuilders eat constantly, but it's a very specific formula, heavy on protein and vegetables and light on sodium and fats, Ray said. She was often cranky and exhausted. She turned down dinner invitations with friends because it would be hard finding something that fit her diet. Giving up cheese was particularly tough.

"I thought, I eat healthy, this should be fine," she said. "I was so wrong. It's a totally different way of thinking. You're eating to feed your muscles, not for enjoyment."

Slowly she noticed her body changing, becoming more sculpted, and her energy returning. Her hard work paid off: She won her amateur debut in September 2008 and turned pro.

"Tennille came in and kicked butt right off the bat," said Charlie Carollo, vice president of the WNBF. "She's really disciplined, but she's also got God-given genetics that really help her out."

AP
This photo taken Sept. 2, 2009 shows bodybuilder Tennille Ray posing for a portrait in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Ray, who won't tell her age, works out regularly and brings food everywhere she goes, munching on salad with mushrooms, broccoli and fresh fish during a recent interview. She says she relies mostly on fresh vegetables and natural nutritional supplements.

Other bodybuilders have turned to steroids to make their muscles bulge. The WNBF bans controlled substances and drug tests, and gives polygraph tests before each show to combat drug use.

But even without drugs, women can harm their bodies by becoming so lean, said Meaghan Murphy, features director for fitness at Self magazine.

"You have to have fat on your body," she said. "The nutritional aspects of body building scare me. There are not enough carbs, there are supplements not monitored by the FDA, perhaps they're toying with hormone cocktails. ... It's risky."

Ray is often asked by strangers on the street how she got so fit.

"You don't have to go as extreme as me to be fit," she said. "You still feel good and successful just working toward your own goals."

Here she mentions five proven ways to help keep fit, whether you're on the road to competition or just want to squeeze into a smaller size:

PORTION CONTROL

Step away from that super-size drink. Half the battle of being in shape is knowing when to put down the fork, Ray says. Eat five small meals a day instead of two or three larger ones, and keep in mind that a serving of meat is about the size of your palm. Pastas and other carbohydrates are about a handful, or an ice-cream scoop, and bread is one slice. Veggies and fruits are best raw.

DON'T FEAR WEIGHTS

Weight training is good for you, Ray says, and there's no way the average person will bulk up like a bodybuilder. Bicep curls with more reps and less weight will help you achieve a more sculpted look. Murphy says strength training is essential. "After 35, if you're not doing weight-bearing exercises you're at risk for osteoporoses," she said. "Just two days a week. Light dumbbells to keep bone density in check."

DISCIPLINE

Being fit is a distance event, not a sprint. It's OK to have that slice of pizza or an ice cream sundae, but then get right back on the health horse, Ray says. Bring food from home when you're at work to avoid hidden calories in takeout food, and save the eating out for special nights.

BACK TO BASICS

Calisthenics, such as lunges, squats and push-ups, are some of the best ways to get in shape, but often are sidelined for more exotic exercises. They require no weights, and can be done anywhere. Ray suggests alternating two different exercises, in two or three sets of 15, to tone and strengthen.

DRINK WATER

Ray drinks more than a gallon of water a day, and it's possible you should too, depending on how much sodium you ingest, she said. If you're at work, keep a bottle of water at your desk and refill it at least four times a day. If you're home, refill your glass at least six times, she says.

Source: Blago to appear on Trump reality TV show

CHICAGO (AP)—Out of work since he was impeached by Illinois lawmakers, Rod Blagojevich is taking his job search to TV's toughest boss—Donald Trump.

The ousted Illinois governor will make an appearance on Trump's "The Celebrity Apprentice" reality television show on NBC, said a person close to Blagojevich's team who was briefed on the plan. The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because it hadn't been officially announced, said Blagojevich would be paid for his appearance but the amount was undisclosed.

It was unclear if Blagojevich would compete or just make an appearance on the show.

"NBC doesn't comment on casting until there's an official announcement to be made," NBC spokeswoman Amanda Ruisi said Friday.

Blagojevich spokesman Glenn Selig could not immediately be reached for comment on Friday. Messages were left on his answering machine and e-mail.

AP
In this Tuesday, April 14, 2009 file photo, Rod Blagojevich arrives at his home in Chicago.

Blagojevich currently faces federal corruption charges for allegedly scheming to sell or trade President Barack Obama's former U.S. Senate seat for campaign money or a high-paying job for his wife or himself. He has pleaded not guilty and says he has done nothing wrong. His trial is due to get under way in Chicago on June 3.

Earlier this year, Blagojevich's wife, Patti, went into the Costa Rican jungle as a contestant on NBC's "I'm a Celebrity ... Get Me Out of Here!"

She lost her chance to win the title "queen of the jungle" when she was tossed after 23 days. She later said she lost 12 pounds.

The ninth season of "The Celebrity Apprentice" is scheduled to air in spring 2010. The network has said production was expected to begin in the fall, when 16 celebrities meet and compete in business-oriented challenges. All but one will eventually hear Trump tell them, "You're fired!"

Detroit Brothers star in upcoming Discovery show

DETROIT (AP)—Business hasn't been too good lately for the Detroit Bros. Custom Cycles shop. Founders Dave and James Kaye hope the magic of TV may soon help.

The brothers are starring in an upcoming Discovery Channel series called "Motor City Motors" that they hope not only will turn around their struggling business, but also provide a boost to their economically challenged hometown.

"I think the show will bring some attention to Detroit and all of the possibilities here—all the available jobs, all the intelligent people that are here and are out of work or are struggling with their job or aren't getting paid enough," James Kaye said. "I'm hoping we can really make a difference."

Each hour-long episode follows the Kayes and their dad, John, as they work to build a one-of-a-kind vehicle over a five-day period. And the stuff they're building goes way beyond the typical custom bike or car.

In one case, they built a "Festevil," a kind of a hamster wheel with a 1991 Ford Festiva in the middle. The Kayes removed a three-foot section from the center of the body, then set the subcompact car inside 10-foot steel rings with independent braking for each side.

Series producer Eric Lange said eight of 13 episodes have been shot, and the first one will premiere early next year.

"It was a win-win situation for them. Their bike shop was hurting. And this was a chance to bring Detroit builders in and give a little back to Detroit for them," Lange said Friday at an open house for media, officials and businesses.

The brothers are given a challenge and a team of workers on Monday and get five days to make it a reality.

In addition to the Festevil, the Kayes also turned a 1929 Model T into a hot rod and transformed a 1992 GMC Suburban into a pothole filler with a 10-foot nitrogen spring-loaded arm, rotating hot box, 500,000-BTU torch and hydraulic tamping front end.

"We throw big challenges at them, which I always love. It's 'can you do this?' That's all," said series creator Thom Beers, whose Original Productions also is responsible for "Deadliest Catch" on Discovery Channel and "Ice Road Truckers" on The History Channel.

The Detroit Brothers—both in their 30s—take pride in being from Detroit and hope the show trains a spotlight on the men and women who represent today's car culture.

"It's been hectic, terrifying and amazing—a really surreal experience," Dave Kaye said.

Aye Carumba!

Marge Simpson poses for Playboy cover

CHICAGO (AP)—Aye Carumba!

Marge Simpson has done something that Homer might not like but will make Bart the proudest kid in his school: She's posed for *Playboy* magazine.

After more than a half century featuring women like Marilyn Monroe, Cindy Crawford and the Girls of Hooters on its cover, *Playboy* has for the first time given the spot to a cartoon character.

And the magazine is giving the star of "The Simpsons" the star treatment, complete with a data sheet, an interview and a 2-page centerfold.

The magazine's editorial director, James Jellinek, won't say exactly how much of Marge will show in the November edition that hits newsstands on Oct. 16—or whether she lets that big pile of blue hair down. But, he said, "It's very, very racy."

But he stressed that the mother of three—the youngest a baby, by the way—has a lot to be proud of.

"She is a stunning example of the cartoon form," he said on Friday at the magazine's headquarters in Chicago, appearing both pleased and surprised at the words coming out of his mouth.

For *Playboy*, which has seen its circulation slip from 3.15 million to 2.6 million since 2006, putting Marge on the cover was designed to attract younger readers to a magazine where the median age of readers is 35, while not alienating older readers.

"We knew that this would really appeal to the 20-something crowd," said *Playboy* spokeswoman Theresa Hennessey.

The magazine also hopes to turn the November issue into a collectors' item by featuring Marge, sitting on a chair in the shape of the iconic Playboy bunny, on the cover of only the magazines sold in newsstands. Subscribers get a more traditional model on the cover.

"It's so rare in today's digital age where you have the opportunity to send people to the newsstand to pick something up," Jellinek said.

Playboy even convinced 7-Eleven to carry the magazine in its 1,200 corporate-owned stores, something the company has only done once before in more than 20 years.

"We love Marge," said 7-Eleven spokesman Margaret Chabris.

For those who do collect the magazine—and they're out there—the cover will bring to mind another first for the magazine that occurred in 1971 when a black woman appeared on the cover in exactly the same pose and, like Marge, smiling under an impressive head of hair.

"We knew it was something all of our readers would get a kick out of," said Hennessey.

Jellinek said putting Marge on the cover, while unusual, made perfect sense. For one thing, the cover celebrates the 20th anniversary of the TV show. Further, he said there was an episode in which "Marge bears all," which suggested the at she, or at least the people who drew her, would be comfortable with the *Playboy* treatment.

Perhaps most important, the idea seemed like a good one to the magazine's founder, Hugh Hefner.

"He's a huge 'Simpsons' fan,' said Jellinek. "He's been on 'The Simpsons.'"

In this photo released Friday, Oct. 9, 2009, by *Playboy Magazine*, the cover of the November 2009 issue featuring Marge Simpson is shown.

AP

Actress Sigourney Weaver still committed to gorilla rescue

ATLANTA (AP)—Actress Sigourney Weaver said Saturday that orphaned gorillas desperately need a permanent rescue and rehabilitation center that's currently being built in the Congo.

The Gorilla Rehabilitation and Conservation Education, or GRACE, Center is set to open in March, about a year after construction began. It's a joint project of the Atlanta-based Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund and several other organizations.

Fossey made researching the African gorilla population, and rescuing them from poachers and other threats, her life's mission. The Californian lived among the rare mountain gorillas and observed their behavior over roughly 10 years at Karisoke, a research camp she established in Rwanda, before she was killed there in 1985.

Weaver played Fossey in the 1988 movie "Gorillas in the Mist" and is honorary chair of the fund. While filming, Weaver said she spent many days with gorillas.

"These little gorillas just steal your heart. They're very sensitive creatures," she said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "So it's no surprise that this is a very demanding and ambitious project, the GRACE Center, but we need it. We have to have it."

Weaver was at Atlanta's Woodruff Arts Center Saturday to talk about the center. "Gorillas in the Mist" is set to be shown on a big screen for the first time in about 20 years at Woodruff on Oct. 17 as part of a fundraiser for the gorilla fund.

The center will house orphaned gorillas who may have behavioral, developmental, physical or psychological problems after being rescued from poachers.

Weaver said the center hopes to care for and rehabilitate the gorillas to the point that they may be able to survive in the wild again instead of living out their lives in captivity.

The other organizations partnering with the gorilla fund in this project are the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, Disney's Animal Kingdom, the Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the national park authorities of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda.

AP

In this Jan. 11, 2009 file photo, Sigourney Weaver poses for a photograph backstage at the 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Eagles' Vick to star in 8-part TV series

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Vick will be giving the public an inside look at his life during an eight-part television series scheduled to debut on BET next year.

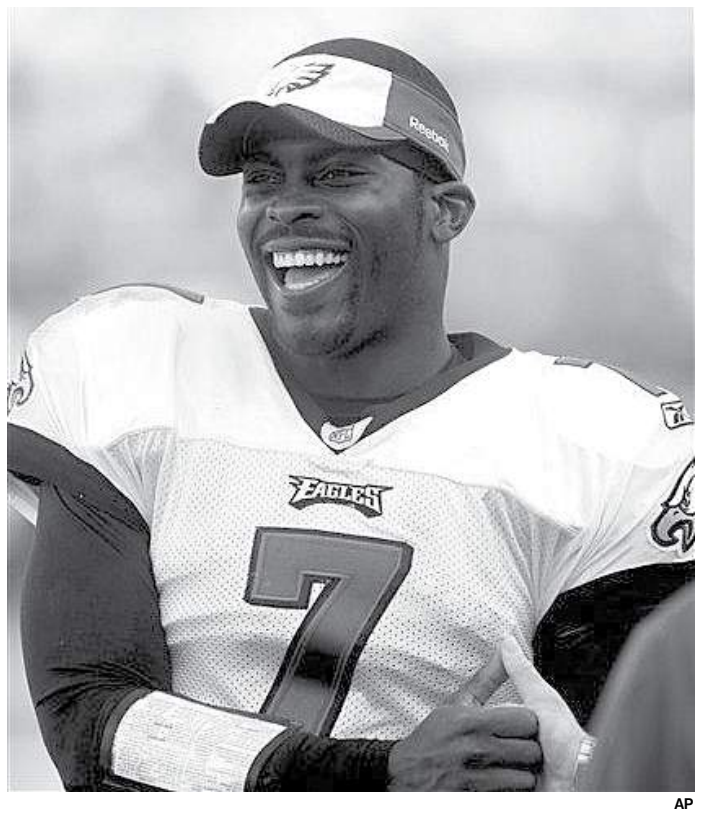
Tentatively titled "The Michael Vick Project," the cable show will follow the Philadelphia Eagles quarterback as he tries to redeem himself after going to prison for 18 months for his role in operating a dogfighting ring. DuBose Entertainment, which is co-producing the series, and BET officially announced the show Friday.

"I think its important to show our youth and our kids that you face adversity but you're not responsible for falling, you're responsible for getting up," Vick said earlier this week. "I'm very remorseful about what happened and what I did. I just don't want other people to go down that path. I'm trying to make it right and repair past damages. That's all I want to show."

The show is part reality TV, part documentary, chronicling Vick's rise from a difficult childhood to becoming a star at Virginia Tech, the No. 1 overall draft pick of the Atlanta Falcons in 2001, and at the time the highest paid player in the NFL.

Its producers also are promising a stark, candid look at Vick's precipitous fall, which culminated in his prison term and bankruptcy, and his return to the NFL this season.

Vick signed a $1.6 million deal with the Eagles on Aug. 13, with a team option for next year worth $5.2 million. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell gave Vick his full reinstatement Sept. 3 and allowed him to return to the field in Week 3.



AP

This is a Sept. 27, 2009, file photo showing Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Michael Vick smiling during an NFL football game against the Kansas City Chiefs, in Philadelphia.

Vick has played sparingly his first two games, completing 11 of 15 passes for 45 yards with one interception, and running eight times for 36 yards and a score.

"Michael Vick's story is about second chances, and we are excited to have the opportunity to tell his complete story," BET president Loretha Jones said in a statement.

Vick said he began filming the show with his own crew when he was sent to prison, long before BET got involved. He said he wanted the cameras to see "the ugly results of my decisions" so that other people won't make the same mistakes.

"We started filming that a long time ago, not with BET but just on my own. My own film crew," Vick said. "We haven't been shooting lately, but it's something we've been doing since I was in prison and through the bankruptcy.

"It was all out then and I was doing it. I think as the season goes on, I won't have time for it. Maybe some time in 2010 we can pick up where we left off."

T.I. wins BET awards from prison; Kanye a no-show

ATLANTA (AP)—T.I. didn't need to attend the BET Hip-Hop Awards to win two trophies on Saturday.

The rapper, who is locked up in an Arkansas penitentiary on a federal weapons conviction, won the best collaboration award with Rhianna for the song "Live Your Life" and the album of the year award for "Paper Trail." His fiancee Tameka "Tiny" Cottle accepted his awards at the ceremony in Atlanta and read a letter by the rapper, who began serving a yearlong sentence in late May.

"Although I'm not there with you all, I'm there in spirit," Cottle quoted the rapper as writing. "My road to redemption is almost over. ... Thanks for the support."

Jay-Z was honored as the "MVP of the Year," while Drake took home "Rookie of the Year," and Ice Cube received the "I Am Hip-Hop" icon award.

Ice Cube said he was humbled by the award, and he believes his career as filmmaker could earn him more honors in the future. He helped launch the gangsta rap genre with the group NWA, and he starred in "Barbershop" and "Friday," which he also co-wrote.

"When you get recognized by your peers for a life of work, you got to be humbled," the rap veteran said. "I'm honored by this. I have 20 more years of work left in me. I hope (BET) is ready to give out two of these awards."

Rapper Busta Rhymes presented the award for "DJ of the Year" to DJ AM, the celebrity spinner who died of an accidental drug overdose in August.

Kanye West, meanwhile, couldn't hijack the stage, because the rapper was a no-show. West had been expected to attend the fourth annual awards show. He fell under scrutiny for interrupting Taylor Swift's award-winning moment at last month's MTV Video Music Awards.

Jay-Z took the stage with Young Jeezy to perform "Real as It Gets" and rap group Goodie Mob performed its 1995 song "Cell Therapy."

The award show will air on Oct. 27.

AP

Rapper Ice Cube accepts the I AM Hip Hop Award during the taping of the BET Hip Hop Awards Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009 in Atlanta.

Springsteen plays last show at Giants Stadium

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Highlighting the album that shot him to superstardom, Bruce Springsteen has rocked Giants Stadium in New Jersey for the last time.

Friday night's show—which drew nearly 60,000 people and lasted for more than three hours—was the last concert at the venue in East Rutherford. It will soon be demolished to create parking for a new stadium.

The show was the fifth that The Boss and the E Street Band had performed there since Sept. 30. All featured full-album sets. And like previous shows, the final concert opened with a new song called "Wrecking Ball."

During the show, Springsteen and his bandmates played the "Born in the USA" album from front to back. Overall, they performed 31 songs—including seven encores—and closed the night with "Jersey Girl."

AP

Bruce Springsteen performs with the E Street Band Friday, Oct. 9, 2009 at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

Britney Spears' ex pleads no contest

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A former boyfriend of singer Britney Spears has pleaded no contest to leaving the scene of an accident that injured a man who was trying to serve him with a restraining order.

Adnan Ghalib, 37, entered the plea Friday in Van Nuys Superior Court.

Prosecutors say the victim was trying to serve Ghalib a temporary restraining order obtained by Spears' father at Ghalib's Encino apartment complex last February when Ghalib drove his car toward the process server. The man jumped on the car's hood and then fell off, breaking his wrist and sustaining other injuries. Ghalib then drove away.

In exchange for the plea, prosecutors say two other felony counts will be dismissed when Ghalib is sentenced next month.

He faces up to a year in county jail.

Soulja Boy arrested after vacant house video shoot

McDONOUGH, Ga. (AP)—Police say rapper Soulja Boy was charged with obstruction after telling officers that people gathered at an abandoned Georgia house were shooting a music video.

Henry County Police Capt. Jason Bolton said Friday that when officers arrived Wednesday night to investigate complaints, almost half of the 40 people assembled fled by foot. Later, a man identified as DeAndre Cortez Way, Soulja Boy's real name, returned and said the group was shooting a video.

The 19-year-old was charged with obstruction and bonded out of the Henry County jail on Thursday. A telephone call to his publicist was not immediately returned.

The rapper started an Internet dance craze several years ago with the hit "Crank That (Soulja Boy)." More recent hits include "Kiss Me Thru the Phone."

AP

Rapper Soulja Boy, whose real name is DeAndre Cortez Way, is shown in this police handout photo released Oct. 9, 2009 by the Henry County Sheriff's Office.

Wife resents man's failure to pick up slack at home

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: The other day my kids asked me why I'm always so angry. I didn't know how to respond. I'm angry that they think their dad is "wonderful" because he plays with them all day (he's not working), takes them to get fast food (instead of cooking something healthy), and because he's their coach (he is having an emotional affair with one of the parents).

I assign chores to the kids because things never get done when I ask my husband to do them. If I remind them "It's trash day" or "Don't forget to vacuum the living room," my husband steps in and says, "I'll do it for you, Billy/Jane," which makes me the bad guy. I know if I ask for a divorce, the kids will want to live with him.

How do I explain this to them? And what do I tell my friends when they ask what a pretty, fit, successful woman like me is doing with an overweight, unemployed, lazy man like him? He's more personable than I am, but the stress of being the sole breadwinner has taken its toll on me.

NEEDING ANSWERS, LEVITTOWN, PA.

DEAR NEEDING ANSWERS: You're overwhelmed right now, and with the load you're carrying, it's no wonder. You, your husband and the children are overdue for a frank sit-down chat.

It would not be out of line to tell them that the reason you appear to be angry is you are doing it all—carrying the load financially and being the responsible parent. It would also not be out of line to let them know that every member of the family is expected to do their part, which is why you have assigned them chores—because Dad is too busy coaching to remember to do it.

As to the fast-food diet, your husband is doing the children—and himself—no favors, and he is setting a terrible example.

Now, about your friends: Be honest. Tell them that you married your husband because you loved him at the time, and you are sticking with it because if you dump him, you may wind up supporting him anyway.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am 14 and have just started high school. I have been told I'm beautiful. Most times I feel that way, except for one thing—I hate my nose! I don't want to sound ungrateful for my looks. I know I'm not the only girl who has a flaw and wants to change it. I just want your opinion.

From the front you can't tell my nose is messed up. But viewed from the side, there's a bump in the middle. It's also sort of crooked and just too big. I'm starting to be self-conscious about it. I don't like people looking at me from the side, but it's hard to prevent.

I have been researching plastic surgery online. At my age, my parents won't let me get a nose job, but I don't want to wait until I'm 18. Some kids have commented about my nose, but mainly I want to do this for me. It would make me feel better about myself. What am I supposed to do?

SELF-CONSCIOUS IN MINNESOTA

DEAR SELF-CONSCIOUS: For now, stop looking at yourself in a magnifying mirror and obsessing about your "flaws." You may—or may not—want to consider plastic surgery in a few years. I say in a few years because at 14 your features are not yet fully developed. A nose that seems "too big" now may be exactly the right size in a couple of years. If you are still displeased about the bump, there is time to have it smoothed out.

But for now you should wait and develop your personality and your intellect so that people notice you for more than your looks. I'm sure you have many qualities that make you special—and remember, what makes us unique is sometimes what we mistake as our "flaws."

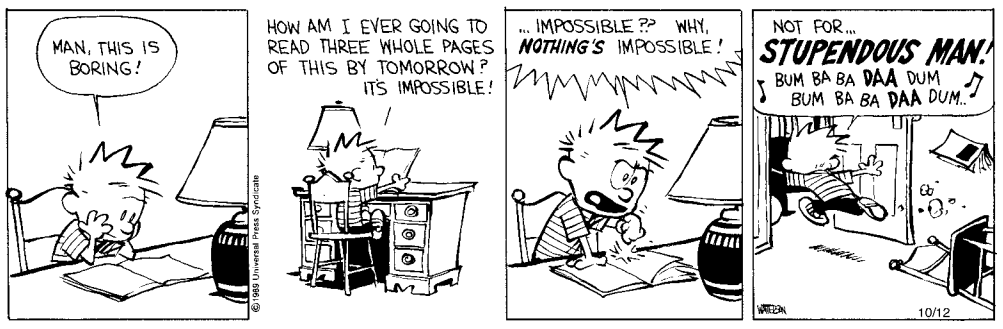
■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


MAN, THIS IS BORING!
HOW AM I EVER GOING TO READ THREE WHOLE PAGES OF THIS BY TOMORROW? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
... IMPOSSIBLE?? WHY, NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE!
NOT FOR... STUPENDOUS MAN!
BUM BA BA DAA DUM BUM BA BA DAA DUM..
10/12
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Garfield®

By Jim Davis

LOOK, LIZ FORGOT HER PURSE
JIM DAVIS 10/12
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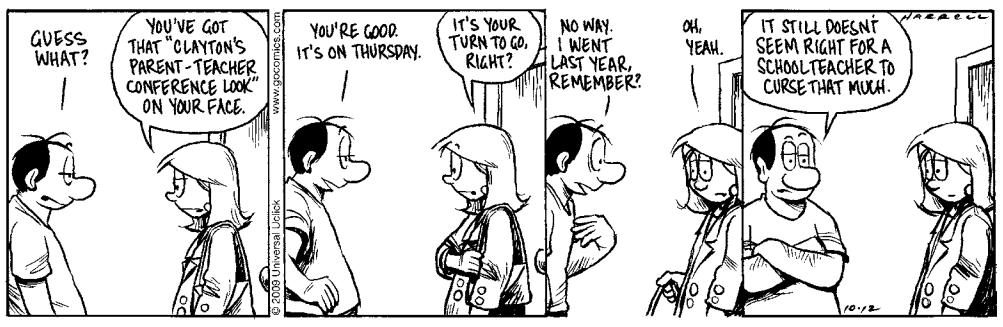
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


GUESS WHAT?
YOU'VE GOT THAT "CLAYTON'S PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE LOOK" ON YOUR FACE.
YOU'RE GOOD. IT'S ON THURSDAY.
IT'S YOUR TURN TO GO, RIGHT?
NO WAY. I WENT LAST YEAR, REMEMBER?
OH, YEAH.
IT STILL DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT FOR A SCHOOLTEACHER TO CURSE THAT MUCH.
10-12
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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I THOUGHT YOU HAD A DATE.
Nope. CHRISTY BROKE UP WITH ME.
CHRISTY. SHE'S THE ARMY RECRUITER, RIGHT?
YEAH.
UNFORTUNATELY, SHE FEELS I ALREADY AM ALL THAT I CAN BE.
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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

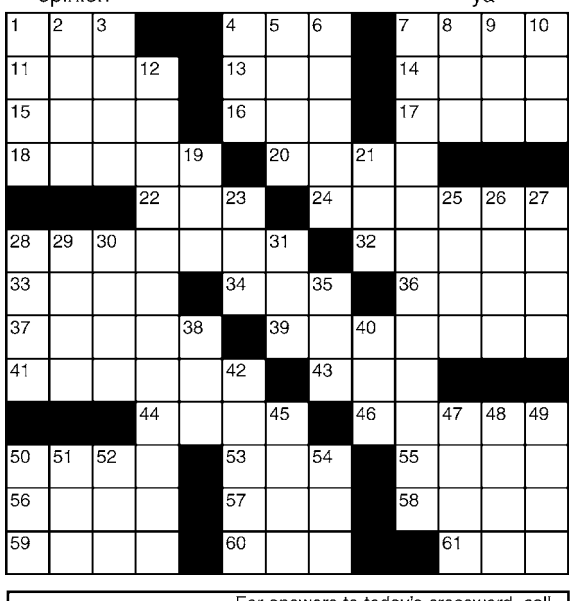
ACROSS
1 Arbiter
4 Suitable
7 "I Remember —"
11 Acknowledge
13 Hawaiian neckpiece
14 Raw minerals
15 Pleasant
16 Felon's flight
17 Approaching
18 Slight light
20 Rickey flavor
22 Pitch
24 Wood decay caused by fungus
28 California observatory
32 Range
33 PC picture
34 Mesh
36 Admitting customers
37 Obliterate
39 Variance of opinion
41 Tooth-related
43 Siesta
44 Destruction
46 Cart
50 Sandwich shop
53 Unruly bunch
55 Portrayal
56 Uncontrollable
57 Purchase
58 A Great Lake
59 Put one over on
60 Indivisible
61 Conclusion

DOWN
1 Phoned
2 Satan's field
3 Convergence points
4 Every iota
5 Thunder sound
6 Shy
7 Bill payer's dream
8 "Entourage" character
9 "Family Guy" daughter
10 Blond shade
12 Protested at work, maybe
19 Highlander's hat
21 "— Miniver"
23 Scooted
25 Cow catcher
26 Part of 32-Across
27 Bivouac shelter
28 Multicolored
29 Farm fraction
30 Bank transaction
31 Roulette bet
35 Can material
38 — de cologne
40 Witnessed
42 In-between state
45 Part of speech
47 Clinton's veep
48 Actress Lena
49 Require
50 Pop
51 Ostrich's cousin
52 Prune
54 "See ya"

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	S	T	A	R	K	■	D	E	B	U	T	■
S	T	E	R	E	O	■	U	R	A	N	I	A
C	A	S	P	E	R	■	C	A	N	T	E	R
U	L	T	■	L	E	F	T	S	■	R	U	E
B	E	E	R	■	A	L	I	■	P	U	P	A
A	D	D	E	R	■	U	N	D	R	E	S	S
■	■	■	V	I	S	■	G	E	E	■	■	■
T	R	I	U	M	P	H	■	B	E	T	H	S
R	O	S	E	■	E	A	R	■	N	E	O	N
I	L	O	■	S	A	L	E	M	■	A	N	A
C	A	L	D	E	R	■	C	A	M	B	E	R
E	N	D	U	R	E	■	A	Y	E	A	Y	E
■	D	E	B	A	R	■	P	A	N	G	S	■

Saturday's answer 10-12



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Marion Jones, 34; Kirk Cameron, 39; Martie Maguire, 40; Hugh Jackman, 41

Happy Birthday: Rely on your intuition and instincts to direct you down the right path this year. Show your integrity, loyalty and ability and you will end up getting most of what you want. The adjustments you make at home will make your life more interesting and affordable. Your numbers are 3, 10, 17, 23, 26, 33, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You won't be willing to stop for anything or anyone until you reach your goal or destination. Your ideas are right on the money. Don't stop because someone is enticing you to play a different game. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't waste your time on the impossible or trying to win someone's favor who isn't worth your time and effort. Study your situation before you let frustration cause you to make an error. Being stubborn will lead to nowhere. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): There is nothing to stop you from going the distance if you follow your heart. Allow yourself the freedom to do what you do best and to let what comes naturally unfold. If you are going to make some changes, don't go halfway. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You may be surprised when you check your financial situation to discover that you have less cash on hand. Find ways to cut corners and you will feel more confident about your future. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Not everyone will get what you are trying to do. Impulsive action or changing your mind too often will confuse the people around you. Show compassion toward those who depend on you or you may give the wrong impression. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Tread carefully when making changes; not everyone will agree with what you are trying to do. Go forward with your plans in order to satisfy your own needs. It may be time to move on from some of the people holding you back. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't hesitate when what's required of you is to go right to the source and keep moving. Once everyone in your circle realizes you will not back down, you will get the support you need. Stability will follow. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): If you show jealousy or possessiveness, it will work against you. Focus on what you can do to create a better life or pursue a creative talent that can turn into a moneymaker and your success. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Be very selective about who you let into your inner circle. You have some great ideas and plans and only a few very creative contributors should be allowed to take part. You can turn something that has potential into something great. ✪✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You can start doing the calculations required to put a new idea into motion. An investment now will help to pay for some important, high-cost items when the time comes. A secret financial deal can buy you the freedom you desire. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): The right choices will be important if you want to be able to pursue your goals. Turn your stress into passion by working on something creative that requires intuition, imagination and innovation. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Any concerns you have about your future must be dealt with before matters escalate. If it's time to move on, do so now. Keep your eyes open for any opportunity that will give you more creative freedom and a higher income. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have the talent and drive to surprise others with your ability to bounce back and take over. You are intelligent, compassionate and have an innate understanding of the world around you.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		1		9	7			
	5	2	4		8	9		
9	6					3	7	
	2				6		5	7
3								9
6	4		1				3	
	9	8					4	3
		3	8		4	2	9	
			9	2		1		

Difficulty Level ★ 10/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

1	3	8	4	7	9	5	2	6
5	4	7	2	6	8	3	9	1
9	6	2	3	5	1	7	4	8
3	8	1	7	4	6	2	5	9
2	9	4	5	8	3	1	6	7
6	7	5	1	9	2	4	8	3
4	2	6	9	3	7	8	1	5
7	1	9	8	2	5	6	3	4
8	5	3	6	1	4	9	7	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TANGLED WEEDS Solution: 7 letters

A	E	B	H	T	W	O	R	G	T	A	N	G	L	E
E	C	N	A	Y	O	N	N	A	J	W	E	A	V	E
G	(P)	C	V	C	O	V	E	R	L	U	I	O	I	L
G	N	(U)	U	I	K	W	O	D	A	E	M	D	N	A
N	N	I	(L)	M	R	G	K	E	D	E	A	B	E	W
I	G	I	K	(L)	U	O	R	N	R	A	H	V	L	N
G	N	I	P	O	O	L	N	O	S	A	E	S	E	E
G	I	S	H	P	P	E	A	M	U	M	N	R	E	S
I	T	P	S	O	A	T	G	T	E	N	E	T	P	M
D	T	A	U	A	T	R	R	N	I	N	D	S	T	S
E	U	T	B	A	R	I	T	F	A	N	T	L	S	E
P	C	C	C	A	M	G	P	S	A	R	G	E	O	Y
A	C	H	E	M	I	C	A	L	S	R	E	A	C	H
R	E	L	O	R	T	N	O	C	I	R	M	R	I	F
D	C	L	U	T	T	E	R	P	T	W	I	S	T	D

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Accumulating, Annoyance, Attached, Background, Bush, Chemicals, Clear, Clutter, Control, Cover, Cutting, Digging, Drape, Environment, Farm, Firm, Garden, Grasp, Grass, Grip, Growth, Hold, Jumble, Lawn, Leaves, Looping, Meadow, Mesh, Messy, Patch, Poking, Pull, Range, Reach, Remove, Season, Spread, Tangle, Trapping, Trees, Trim, Twist, Vine, Weave, Widen

Last Saturday's Answer: Angkorwat

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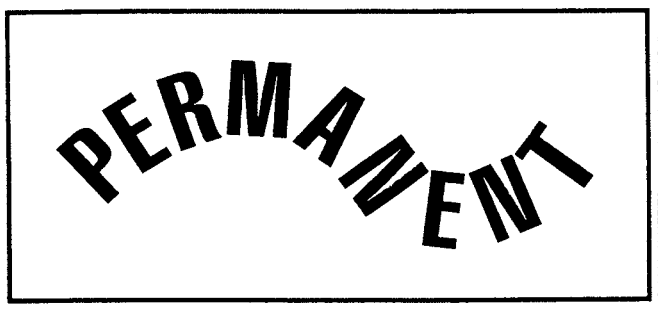

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Find today's solution in this section

WHATZIT Solution: Permanent wave

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening date: September 18, 2009 **Closing date: October 23, 2009**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancies:

1 (one) Executive Director
1 (one) Staff Engineer

Employment Application must be accompanied with a first copy of all required diploma/certificates, original copy of recent police record not more that six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 26 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, October 23, 2009.***

Minimum Qualifications:

Executive Director: Possess a four (4) year degree from an accredited U.S. University with no less than ten (10) years of progressively responsible experience in either of the following field: management, engineering, financial, aviation and/or maritime industry. Must have managerial and leadership experience acceptable to the Board of Directors.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction from any jurisdiction.

Staff Engineering: Possess a four (4) year degree in civil engineering from an accredited U.S. university with no less than seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional engineering level of which three (3) years pertain to supervisory experience.

Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction from any jurisdiction.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact the Executive Director by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ **EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.**
Executive Director

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• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Padilla, Dodgers beat Cardinals 5-1 for sweep

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Unemployed in August and a star for the Los Angeles Dodgers in October. Once Vicente Padilla got out of the first inning, he slammed the door on the St. Louis Cardinals' season.

The second-chance pitcher kept Albert Pujols and Matt Holliday quiet in a 5-1 victory Saturday night that gave Los Angeles a second straight trip to the National League championship series.

"Anytime you win a series it's good," Casey Blake said. "But to sweep the Cardinals, it just doesn't happen. I would have never guessed we would have swept them."

The Dodgers got their sweep in a series that will be remembered most for Holliday's pivotal dropped fly ball with two outs in the ninth inning of Game 2.

Andre Ethier missed the cycle by a single, Manny Ramirez had three hits and two RBIs and the Dodgers didn't need another St. Louis fielding blunder to sweep their division series opponent for a second straight season. Los Angeles scored all five runs with two outs.

Closer Jonathan Broxton struck out Rick Ankiel for the last out and pumped his fist as the Dodgers ran out to the mound to celebrate becoming the first team to advance to the championship series. They await the winner of the Philadelphia-Colorado series that is even at a game apiece. The Phillies beat Los Angeles in the NLSC last season in five games.

Pujols and Holliday were a combined 2 for 8 with a late RBI for the Cardinals, who never recharged after becoming the first National League team to clinch a division title. Counting the postseason St. Louis was 1-9 after wrapping up the NL Central, and was swept for the first time in the division series or NLCS play and only for the third time overall in the postseason.

This team and the 1928 team that got swept in the World Series by the Yankees are the only teams in franchise history to fail to win a game in the postseason.

"It's hard to believe we're thinking about next year," Ryan Ludwick said. "It just seems a long way away."

Pujols, 3 for 10 with an RBI and no extra-base hits in the series, left Busch Stadium without speaking to reporters. Holliday was 2 for 12 with a solo homer.

"For some reason, our offense, we couldn't get anything going," Holliday said. "We had some good at-bats here or there but as far as stringing anything together we had a hard time."

Padilla, designated for assignment by the Rangers in early August, was 4-0 the final month with the Dodgers before shutting down the Cardinals on four hits over seven innings in his first career postseason appearance. After escaping a bases-loaded jam in the first inning he was dominant, retiring 19 of 21 hitters against a team he last faced in 2003.

"Big lineup," Padilla said through an interpreter. "I just tried to make the pitches that I knew I was capable of throwing."

The Dodgers were already up 3-0 in the third inning when starter Joel Pineiro dropped Pujols' simple toss at first for an error on James Loney's grounder for the lifeless Cardinals, who were beset by bad play this series.

Holliday got a standing ovation from a sellout crowd of 47,296 before his first at-bat with two men on and one out in the first. Then he tapped out to the mound. Pfft.

Over and over, he said he was touched by the ovation. Even if it was a recruiting pitch for a player headed for free agency.

"Whatever it was, I'm appreciative of it," Holliday said. "Obviously that was a hard pill for me to swallow, that ball. To get that kind of acknowledgment, I'm very appreciative."

Ramirez, only 1-for-8 the first two games amid suggestions by manager Joe Torre that he was trying too hard, gave the Dodgers the early lead with a two-out RBI double in the first.

"I was just trying to be more aggressive," Ramirez said. "Anything on the plate, I was ready for."

Ethier, who had only one homer in the last 12 games of the regular season, jumped on a 3-1 pitch for a two-run shot that made it 3-0 in the third. It was his second homer of the series.

"To show up now and contribute and be a main guy, it's nice to come through," Ethier said.

Ronnie Belliard singled to start the fourth, stole second and scored on Rafael Furcal's single for a 4-0 cushion.

That was more than enough for the Dodgers, who were 2-5 against the Cardinals during the regular season with all the games between mid-July and mid-August when St. Louis was its best.

Joel Pineiro, a 15-game winner and the last of the Cardinals' big three starters to come up empty, allowed four runs in four innings in an outing that matched his shortest of the season. The sinkerball specialist allowed only 11 homers in the regular season, but surrendered five in his last three starts.

The Cardinals' demise, though, was due to the failure of an offense beefed up with the acquisitions of Holliday, Mark DeRosa and Julio Lugo since late June. St. Louis was 4 for 30 (.133) with runners in scoring position against an underrated Dodgers pitching staff, totaling six runs and stranding 28 runners.

One of them, Yadier Molina, doubled with one out in the seventh and than ran into an easy out on a groundball in front of him.

Furcal, the Dodgers' leadoff man, had two hits and was 7 for 12 in the series with two RBIs. Ethier was 6 for 12 with three RBIs after getting no RBIs in his first 37 career postseason at-bats.

John Smoltz struck out five in two innings. The Cardinals finally broke through on Pujols' run-scoring single off Broxton in the eighth.

The Cardinals totaled three or fewer runs in 18 of their last 33 games. They fell to 6-2 in division series in 14 seasons under manager Tony La Russa.

"I've ended playoffs 14 times this way," Smoltz said. "It's never easy. You always think you're going to win the next game.

AP

St. Louis Cardinals' Yadier Molina, right, walk off the field as the Los Angeles Dodgers celebrate their victory in Game 3 of the National League division baseball series Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, in St. Louis.

Game 3 in Denver postponed, and Pedro Martinez out

DENVER (AP)—The cold and snow in Colorado scrapped plans for Pedro Martinez's first postseason start in five years. Game 3 of the Philadelphia-Colorado playoff series was postponed a day because of weather Saturday better suited for cross-country skiing. About an hour before the scheduled start it was 24 degrees.

The delay prompted a pitching switch by the Phillies, with left-hander J.A. Happ going to the mound Sunday instead of the 37-year-old Martinez.

The Rockies are sticking with Jason Hammel in the best-of-five series tied at a game apiece.

Moreover, the snowout allowed Philadelphia manager Charlie Manuel to go with an all-lefty rotation against a Rockies team that sports potent left-handed hitters in Todd Helton, Ian Stewart, Seth Smith, Carlos Gonzalez, Brad Hawpe and Jason Giambi.

"I thought it was a tremendous way of putting all of our left-handed pitchers on them," said Manuel, who will go with Game 1 winner Cliff Lee on Monday against Colorado ace Ubaldo Jimenez. That will allow Phillies ace Cole Hamels to pitch on regular rest Tuesday back in Philadelphia if a Game 5 is necessary.

The Rockies went 27-26 against left-handed starters during the season and 65-44 against righties.

"I like left-handed pitchers against this team," Manuel said.

The Rockies hit .253 against lefties, .264 against righties.

With Martinez on the mound, the Rockies would have used their most potent lineup with Stewart at third base, Smith in left and maybe Gonzalez in center.

The Phillies holed up in their hotel Saturday with only a few players, including Happ, heading to the ballpark for some work.

"I didn't throw off the mound. I just went over there to get some work in and then to just play some catch a little bit, just kind of trying to stay on the normal routine I would a day before I start," Happ said.

Hammel and the rest of the Rockies were summoned for a 90-minute workout inside Coors Field.

"We just want to keep ourselves on somewhat of a schedule," manager Jim Tracy said.

Tracy suspected this might not be a night for baseball when even his dogs wanted to skip their morning walk. Major League Baseball agreed with Tracy's beagles, pushing back Game 3 of this NL division series to Sunday night and Game 4 to Monday.

Their series is tied at one game each.

"I think it's a very wise decision," Tracy told The Associated Press by phone. "You could have something happen in weather like this where you could lose a player for half a year in 2010.

"There's no question about the type of play that you would see in this kind of weather vs. if you have better conditions that they're calling for Sunday," he said. "To be cold and wet and rainy and sleety or snowy is completely different than cold and dry and clear."

Surely any dog would know that. Well, at least Tracy's.

"We got up to take the dogs for a walk and when two beagles don't want to go outside, I don't see how baseball players would see this as a real good day to be playing," he said. "It was snowing and 18 degrees, not very conducive for baseball."

Manuel didn't like walking outside in the morning, either.

"It was snowing, and somebody told me it was 17 degrees," Manuel said. "And I thought to myself, well, how much can it warm up today? And the smart guy that I am, I said, well, is probably going to get to 20. So I figured it might be a little bit too cold to play baseball. So, I think they made the right decision."

Happ, a rookie, said Saturday that he felt better after being knocked out of Game 1. He had entered in relief and took a hard liner off his left leg in the seventh inning.

"The leg is a non-issue," he said.

Before the weather changed things, Martinez was set to make his first postseason start since he won Game 3 for Boston at St. Louis in the 2004 World Series.

"When I talked to Pedro, he totally understood," Manuel said. "He was very professional about it. Of course, he wants to pitch. He's just like everybody else. He came here to pitch and he did a good job for us."

Manuel said he'd use Martinez, who hasn't pitched since Sept. 30, out of the bullpen.

The cold front that moved into Denver overnight dropped temperatures into the teens with record lows for the date. Coors Field was covered with a thin layer of snow and ice Saturday morning and flurries were expected to continue through the night.

The National Weather Service said the cold front packed more punch than expected and the low of 17 degrees easily broke the record low for the date of 25 degrees set in 1905.

Meteorologist Eric Thaler said the updated forecast called for temperatures in the mid-20s at game time, which would have been the coldest, by far, for any postseason game.

The lowest game-time temperature in the postseason was 35 degrees for Game 4 of the 1997 World Series at Cleveland between the Indians and Florida Marlins. Manuel was the Indians' hitting coach at the time.

Woods & Stricker first unbeaten team in 30 years

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Tiger Woods and Steve Stricker were perfect as Presidents Cup partners, and they got enough help from everyone else Saturday to put the Americans in position to stay perfect on home soil.

With an improbable rally by Woods in the morning and pure putting by Stricker in the afternoon, they became the first partnership in the Presidents Cup—and the first in 30 years of any team competition—to go 4-0.

Phil Mickelson had a chance to join them with an undefeated record using different partners. Mickelson and Sean O'Hair, who won their match handily in the morning, each had a birdie putt inside 15 feet on the final hole for the win, but had to settle for a halve.

The International team walked away from Harding Park the last two days with momentum from keeping close. But as darkness fell across from Lake Merced, the deficit looked daunting with only 12 singles matches remaining Sunday.

The Americans had a 12 1/2-9 1/2 lead.

No team has rallied from three points behind on the final day to win the cup outright, and the Americans have lost only one singles session in the seven previous Presidents Cup matches.

"Last time we had a five-point mountain to climb in Montreal, and it looks like we will have something to climb," Geoff Ogilvy said after collecting his first point of the week in teaming with fellow Australian Robert Allenby.

Hunter Mahan will lead it off for the Americans against Camilo Villegas, who has yet to win a point. Woods gets another crack at Y.E. Yang, who rallied to beat him in the PGA Championship, and 18-year-old Ryo Ishikawa will face 49-year-old Kenny Perry.

AP

United States player Tiger Woods, right, congratulates partner Steve Stricker on his birdie putt to win the seventh hole of their four-ball match at golf's Presidents Cup at Harding Park Golf Course Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, in San Francisco.

Woods and Stricker are the first partners to go 4-0 in any team competition since Larry Nelson and Lanny Wadkins won all their matches in the 1979 Ryder Cup at The Greenbrier.

The perfect mark looked unlikely in the morning foursomes, when the International team was poised to catch the Americans by leading the final three matches on the course.

Woods and Stricker, who had missed four putts inside 8 feet during a six-hole stretch in the middle of the match, were on the verge of being closed out on the 17th hole. The International team was 1 up, with Mike Weir facing 5 feet for birdie. Woods tried to drive the green and found the bunker, and Stricker hit a poor shot to 25 feet.

Miss it, and Weir could win the match by making his short birdie putt.

Woods watched his birdie putt tumble into the cup on the final roll, then showed more emotion than he had all week. He repeatedly pumped his fist as Stricker broke into a wide grin.

"The stage is set, and he comes through again today," Stricker said. "It's pretty impressive."

Weir pushed his birdie putt, and the match was all square heading to the 18th. From the fairway, Woods drilled a 3-iron and twirled the club in his hand, the sign of a good shot, and this one was even better. It landed softly onto the green and stopped 8 feet away. Tim Clark blasted his bunker shot long, and the International team conceded the birdie and an unlikely 1-up victory.

"It was fun to watch," Stricker said. "I had a front-row seat for that. That was pretty cool."

Ahead of them, Stewart Cink and Mahan cobbled together a birdie on the final hole to earn a halve against Allenby and Vijay Singh after trailing the previous 13 holes.

Those two matches—a three-point swing—gave the Americans a 10-7 lead after the morning.

In afternoon fourballs, Woods only had to watch Stricker make one long birdie putt after another in a 4-and-2 victory over Yang and Ishikawa, the first loss for the Asian duo.

"What he did in this morning's round made me want to do something and step up a little bit," said Stricker, who had seven consecutive 3s on his card. "Fortunately, I was rolling it pretty well."

Jim Furyk and Anthony Kim held on for a 2-up victory over Adam Scott and Angel Cabrera, while the International team picked up easy victories in fourballs from Ogilvy and Allenby, and Weir and Ernie Els, who had a 5-and-3 win over Zach Johnson and Justin Leonard.

Mickelson might have to settle for being the best player in red, white and blue this week. He brought O'Hair to life in their 5-and-3 victory in foursomes, then came up with the biggest shots in a late fourballs rally against Singh and Clark.

The International side was 2 up with seven holes to play until Mickelson birdied the 12th and O'Hair birdied the next hole. Clark stuffed it so close on the 14th that the birdie was conceded, and Mickelson then matched the birdie with a 40-foot putt.

The only thing Lefty didn't do was make the final putt.

Singh and Clark missed their birdies, and O'Hair missed his birdie putt from just inside 15 feet. The final stroke belonged to Mickelson, but the birdie putt stayed just to the right of the hole.

No matter. The lead is still three points, and the Americans need to win only five of the 12 singles matches to hoist the gold cup. They have never lost the Presidents Cup on American soil, and they have an overall lead of 47 1/2-36 1/2 in singles.

Mercury captures WNBA crown

PHOENIX (AP)—The Phoenix Mercury are WNBA champions for the second time in three seasons, leaning on their "big three" to pull out a 94-86 victory over the tenacious Indiana Fever in the deciding Game 5 Friday night.

Diana Taurasi, Cappie Pondexter and Penny Taylor—the trio that led the team to its 2007 title—did it again in 2009.

League and finals MVP Taurasi scored 26 points, Pondexter had 24, and Taylor sank two crucial free throws with 37.7 seconds left as the Mercury held off a late rally to win the intense series 3-2.

"This is what we do, we make big plays," Taurasi said, holding a towel over her head in the champagne-drenched locker room. "We have people that step up and love to live the moment. It's a great team, great team."

Tammy Sutton-Brown scored 22 points, and Jessica Davenport had a career-high 18 for Indiana in its first finals appearance. Tamika Catchings added 16 points and nine rebounds for the Fever.

Indiana rallied from 10 down in the second half to tie it at 80 on Sutton-Brown's layup with 4:29 to play, then Tangela Smith made two 3-pointers, her only field goals of the night, to put the Mercury ahead for good.

Her second, after Jessica Davenport scored for Indiana, put Phoenix ahead 86-82 with 3:34 to go.

Pondexter's 9-footer made it 88-82 with 2:22 left, but the Fever—who had led the series 2-1—weren't finished. Davenport's inside basket cut it to 88-84, then Catchings' rebound basket made it 88-86 with 2:07 to play.

On the Mercury's next possession, Taylor drove to the basket and was fouled by Davenport. Her two free throws made it 90-86. Two free throws apiece DeWanna Bonner and Taurasi provided the final margin.

"Indiana's a great team," Pondexter said. "It just shows our resilience and how bad we really wanted to win."

Taylor added 14 points and Bonner 13 for Phoenix. Katie Douglas had her second straight rough shooting night. The Indiana star was 4 of 14 for 13 points after going 2 of 14 in Game 4. The Mercury made 10 of 17 3s.

Phoenix won it with the super-speed style that then-coach Paul Westhead used in 2007 and Corey Gaines adopted when he took over.

After a cold-shooting first quarter, the Mercury turned it on with one of their best 10 minutes of the season, shooting a finals record 76.5 percent (13 of 17)—and they even missed their last two shots—in a second-quarter blitz.

Phoenix also set a finals second-quarter record for points, outscoring Indiana 35-19 to take a 51-42 lead at the break.

Taurasi, after struggling with her shot against Catchings' defense in the first four games, was 5 for 5 in a 13-point second quarter, three of them 3-pointers. Her NBA-length 3 from the top of the key with 6:19 left in the half gave her 10 points already in the quarter and put Phoenix up 33-31.

The Mercury made 13 of their first 15 shots second-quarter shots.

Bonner scored five in a 7-0 spurt that gave Phoenix its biggest lead of the night 51-40 on her two free throws with 1:10 to go.

The Mercury led by as many as 10 in the third quarter, but rookie Briann January—from nearby Arizona State—sank a 3-pointer with 36.7 seconds left to cut Phoenix's lead to 70-65 entering the fourth.

January's 3-pointer, followed by Sutton-Brown's inside basket that made it 80-80 with 4:29 to go.

The Fever shot out to a 14-5 lead and were up 23-16 after one quarter. Phoenix shot 36 percent (4 of 15) in the opening period. Sutton-Brown had 14 points in the quarter, including 6 of 8 free throws, but was limited to two points in the second quarter.

The previous record for shooting percentage in a quarter in the finals was 73.3 percent by Phoenix at Detroit in 2007.

It was the fourth time the WNBA finals went to a deciding fifth game since the league went to the best-of-five format in 2005.

Phoenix Suns captains Amare Stoudemire, Steve Nash and Grant Hill purchased the tickets in the upper bowl of US Airways Center, then gave them away, leading to a sellout crowd of 17,313.

AP

Phoenix Mercury players Diana Taurasi, (3), Penny Taylor, back middle, of Australia, and Le'Coe Willingham, left, celebrate a win over the Indiana Fever after Game 5 of the WNBA basketball finals Friday, Oct. 9, 2009, in Phoenix.

Unable to run, Pacquiao trains in the pool instead

BOXING

BAGUIO CITY, Philippines—Filipino ring icon Manny Pacquiao has taken up swimming to make up for the road work he has lost to the weather.

"For the last eight years I've been trying to get Manny in the pool," Roach told the Philippine Daily Inquirer. "With the rain here we finally got him in the pool."

Pacquiao has missed days of road work due to intermittent rains here. The experience may have not been pleasant for Pacquiao but overall, Roach believes his prized ward has acknowledged the positive effect of it.

"He swallowed a lot of chlorine but he learned to swim quite quickly," said Roach. "I think I actually liked it overall because when he started to work out he realized how hard it was."

Pacquiao

Pacquiao's date with the pool last Friday lasted for 26 minutes.

Roach expects Pacquiao to be sore in the muscles and that, added the trainer, comes with the territory.

"It's like weightlifting but it doesn't make you tight and slow so it's a really a wonderful workout. I think we'll get him back there again," added Roach.

Roach has been urging his fighters to make swimming a part of their regimen and most, if not all of them realized its many benefits.

Meanwhile, former WBC lightweight king Jose Luis Castillo is set to arrive today here via a private plane to begin sparring sessions with Pacquiao, who is preparing for his November 14 bout with Miguel Cotto at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

Castillo arrived Friday but had to stay in Manila as all roads to and from this city remains impassable.

Pacquiao's other two sparring mates are Shawn Porter and Urbano Antillon, and in the recent week, he has had mixed results with the two.

"Shawn and Urbano pretty evened up with Manny, but last Thursday Manny dominated both," said Roach.

In other developments, Team Pacquiao is reportedly planning to leave for the US earlier than the planned October 24 schedule because the storm that hit this vacation capital recently has caused a lot of hitches in training. ***(PDI)***

Pacman might leave early for US

More sparmates arriving to help Pacman vs Cotto

Former WBC lightweight king Jose Luis Castillo of Mexico arrived in the country early morning yesterday to beef up the roster of sparmates for superstar Manny Pacquiao in preparation for his bout with Miguel Cotto.

Castillo arrived from Los Angeles accompanied by another fighter, light welterweight Danny Escobar who might also be tapped to spar with Pacquiao. The duo were immediately whisked away from the airport into a Manila hotel as travel plans for Baguio were made.

Both Castillo and Escobar might be airlifted to Baguio as the country's summer capital remains inaccessible due to landslides that hit the city.

Meanwhile, it was reported that Pacquiao is mulling on leaving for the US earlier than planned due to the inclement weather which has somehow affected his training, relegating his morning runs to indoor runs on the treadmill.

According to ABS-CBN, Pacquiao might opt to fly to the US on Oct. 19, instead of the original plan of leaving on Oct. 24.

"Ang alam ko pagsige-sige ang ulan ay baka umalis na siya papuntang US baka hindi na siya bumaba ng Maynila. Kasi instead of 24 baka 19 na lang ay aalis na siya," Ferdie Marquez, Pacquiao's musical director for an upcoming concert, told abs-cbnNEWS.com.

Marquez said he was informed of the latest plans by the boxer's close friend and musical composer Lito Camo, who wrote Pacquiao's hit songs "Para sa Iyo ang Laban na 'To" and "Lahing Pinoy".

He said Pacquiao and Decena were supposed to hold a three-night rehearsal in Baguio for the after-fight concert starting Friday (October 9) until Sunday (October 11).

"Hindi kami [na]tuloy kasi sarado na ang mga daan [dahil sa bagyo]. Kahapon niya (Pacquiao) pa kami hinihintay kaso nga hindi talaga pwede," said Marquez. ***(PDI)***

MILLER

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Dodong Espanola in the semifinals yesterday at the AMP court, but results of the match were unavailable at press time. The other semis pairing pitted Jang Dongik Wo against Richard Brostrom.

After beating Jones in the first round, Miller won over Fil Kalen via walkover, while Espanola topped junior player Jake Lee, 8-2.

Brostom prevailed over Eric Bernon, 8-6, while Jang defeated Tony Reyes, 8-2.

The IT&E and Tan Holdings-supported Saipan Tennis Challenges also had competitions in the junior Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4, and in the men's 3.0 and women's 3.0 and 4.0 divisions.

In the men's 3.0 singles, Hormas Dostoor advanced to the finals after downing Angelo Jones. Dastoor will face the winner of Jake Lee-Dan Wollak semis tiff.

In the round-robin women's 4.0, Lydia Tan whipped Sakiko Eda, 8-6. Eda was playing junior netter Jeane Bracken yesterday, and the latter will play Tan for the third game in the women' s 4.0 this morning.

In the juniors' Level 2, the semifinalists are Clayton Izuka, Amy Taylor, Amami Sakano, and Steven Goodwin.

Izuka won over James Kim and Kwang Jae to set a semis duel against Taylor, who defeated Lucy Park and Ja Briossos. In the lower half of the draw, Sakano downed Jin Hui and Michael Jones to arrange a semis tiff against Goodwin, who whipped Peter Hui and Alfie Madlambayan.

In the juniors' Level 4, it will be Daniel Park vs. Carl Dela Cruz in the finals. Daniel Park topped Clay McCullough-Stearns in the semis, 8-3, while Dela Cruz won over Chris Park, 8-7 (7-1).

In the juniors' Level 1, only Sky Izuka is assured of a finals stint after thumping Emily Jones in the semis, 8-6. Joel Jang is in the semifinals and is awaiting the winner of the quarterfinal match between Matthew Lopez and Kevin Rhee.

Seung Jae Kim will dispute the Level 1 title against Tony Kim. Seung Jae won over Julie Kim in the semis, 6-4, while six-year-old Tony Kim took the other finals ticket after shutting out Gio Song, 6-0.

PSS

From Page 28

short jumper, Delos Reyes missing a 3-point attempt, and Nate Mateo faltering on a follow-up shot.

Mateo collared the rebound from his own miss and decided to move out of the paint, as PSS defenders were chasing him. With PSS defenders still pressuring him, Mateo lost the ball to the sideline in front of Hyatt's bench.

PSS then answered Hyatt's error with a jumper from Ruluked, who had the presence of mind of pulling up for a shot just when the 24-second shot clock was about to expire. Ruluked's basket increased PSS's lead to three, 91-88, with 32.2 seconds remaining in the game.

Hyatt sued for timeout, but failed to buy a basket, as they missed two more shots from downtown. PSS controlled the rebound and Hyatt was forced to foul Coldeen to stop the clock.

Coldeen, who served a two-game suspension after an unsportsmanlike conduct in their game against Commonwealth Health Center, made sure he will give PSS a win in his comeback, drilling a pair of free throws for the team's 93-88 lead.

Lizama connected on a basket in the paint in the last few seconds of the game to peg the final score.

Mendiola top-scored for PSS with his 17 points, while guards Joe Villacrusis and Jose Tumaquip chipped in 16 and 15 markers, respectively. Ruluked also finished in double figures with 10, nailing six of them in the last three minutes of the game.

Lizama led all scorers with his 24 markers, while Mateo added 17, but was scoreless in the fourth quarter. Dave Sablan also had 17 points for Hyatt.

Meanwhile, Tinian was supposed to play in the second game, but the match did not push through after a no-show from Customs.

League officials will still clarify if Customs was informed of the game schedule. If they did, Tinian will be awarded a win via forfeiture, but if Customs has a valid reason for not making it to the match, league officials will still discuss the action appropriate for this situation.

PSS 93 – Mendiola 17, Villacrusis 16, Tumaquip 15, Ruluked 10, Mendez 8, Coldeen 7, Manibusan 6, Cruz 6, Cabrera 2.

Hyatt 90 – Lizama 24, Sablan 17, Mateo 17, Delos Reyes 12, De Guzman 6, Aquino 4, Arreza 2, Vargas 2, Mendoza 2, Magno 1.

Scoring by quarters: 22-17, 39-42, 69-67, 93-90.

SPECIAL

From Page 28

in the deciding third set, as Special Delivery won, 15-13.

Special Delivery is captained by Heartim Williams and other members include Mika Obuka, Terra Allen, Autumn Beechler, Rick Geroge, Jay Solly, and Dae Min Jeon.

In the second game, Chenutt Crew bounced back from an opening-set loss to down Angamwas. Angamwas drew first blood, nailing a convincing 21-10 win in the opening set. However, the Typhoon Saito-led Chenutt Crew swept the last two sets, 21-15, 15-11, to steal the victory.

Helping Saito in lifting Chenutt Crew to a come-from-behind win were J.J. Lewis, J.R. Gechig, Scotty Silva, Won Cho, and Kgen Hall.

In the third game, Randon Radicals outclassed Fisingan, 2-1.

Randon Radicals, which has Quincy Johnson as captain and Melody Matson, Angiemil Perez, Candice Dunston, Eric Bernon, Keoni Ichihara, and Brant Robinson as members, got off to a good start, taking the first set, 21-10.

However, Randon Radicals could not secure the game early, as the Jazz Roscow-anchored crew buckled down to work in the second set and pulled off a 21-19 win.

In the deciding set, Random Radicals won, 15-11, preventing Fisingan from gaining its second victory.

Meanwhile, action in the 4-person league will continue tomorrow with three scheduled games.

Make It Bali will take on Special Delivery in the first game at 5:30pm, while Just Do It will collide against undefeated Pwipwise in the second game at 6:30pm. The last offering of the night at 7:30pm will have Git It challenging Shogunai.

ROTARY

From Page 28

of proper uniforms.

Teams are mandated to submit proof(s) of players' age eligibility, such as school ID and birth certificate. The Rotary caging is only for 18-and-under players. Participating teams are not required to wear complete uniform in a match, but shirts should be of the same color.

Teams have been violating ground rules and BANMI wants to address these issues before it continues the league.

"I am calling a mandatory meeting with all coaches this Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 5pm at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. Teams have been violating ground rules, as they are not submitting proper documents and entry fees. These will be addressed during the meeting. The Rotary league will then be postponed indefinitely until all requirements are met," Rangamar said in an e-mail sent to *Saipan Tribune* and representatives/coaches of participating teams.

Rangamar is also expected to discuss at the meeting the series of clinics that BANMI will be holding for coaches this month.

The first session of the a three-part Level 1 coaching clinic was scheduled on Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium, but it was called off as only three showed up at the venue.

There are 12 teams vying for this year's Rotary caging title and the youth caging is at the halfway mark of its regular season.

Of the 12 squads, only the G-Stars are unbeaten with their 4-0 record. The Sonics and Sixers share second place with their identical 5-1 slates, followed by Sparks (4-2), Runnin' Rebels (4-3), 670 Rollers (3-2), CK Saints (3-2), Rollers 1 (3-3), Ol'Aces (2-4), Hi-5 (0-5), Young 670 Rollers 3 (0-5), and Celtics (0-5).

The regular season has a round-robin format with only the Top 8 teams advancing to the single-elimination playoffs.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

LOCAL SCORES

GOVT/BIZ CAGE STANDINGS

IT&E	10	1
Hyatt	5	1
Tinian	4	1
MBI	5	4
Docomo	4	3
CHC	3	3
PSS	6	4
BOG	4	6
DCCA	3	6
CPA	4	5
Customs	1	4
ARFF	0	10

The Week in Sports

Typhoon Melor slows down sports action

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Several events were cancelled last week due to Typhoon Melor, leaving athletes out of action for a few days.

Games in Week 2 of the NMIFA Youth Football Fall League were suspended, along with the 2009 Saipan International School 5K Fun Run and the deciding Game 2 of the title showdown between SaiPal and Peleliu in the 2009 Docomo Pacific/Palauan Community Association Slow-pitch Softball Tournament.

Indoor matches were also suspended with Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands canceling games in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium for two days.

After Melor left the island, athletes slowly returned to action.

Matches in the inter-government/business league and the 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League resumed with Hyatt Regency of Saipan and CPA-Accounting extending their winning runs.

Hyatt cruised to its fifth victory in a row, following a 94-73 win over Micronesian Brokers, Inc, before the former bowed to Public School System on Saturday, 90-93. CPA-Accounting notched its fourth straight triumph after crushing Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighters, 86-48, while IT&E and Bank of Guam also prevailed in their games last week.

In the Rotary caging, Rollers I, Chalan Kanoa Saints, and Kagman Sparks booked separate victories.

As athletes returned to action after Typhoon Melor left no lasting damage to Saipan, CNMI's Jess Wabol and Joshua Manglona were also back on island after representing the Commonwealth to the 2009 Pacific Mini Games in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

Later in the week, Wabol and Manglona were named Male Athletes of the Month (for September) for their participation in the golf and triathlon events, respectively, in the quadrennial meet.

Also getting recognition from the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association was junior tennis player Chris Park. Park won one championship and had a runner-up finish in last month's Quality Cup Junior Tennis Tournament in Guam to earn the Male Student Athlete of the Month award. The three athletes were selected during the NMASA monthly meeting at the conference room of the Ada gym.

In the same meeting, NMASA president Michael White announced that proposed changes on eligibility rules for the 2011 Pacific Games were referred to a charter review committee.

This recent development left the fate of athletes wanting to represent the CNMI in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia hanging in the balance for now.

Currents rules under the Pacific Games Council Charter allow only athletes who meet the citizenship/residency requirement to compete in the Mini Games and Pacific Games.

One of the amendments proposed is the "grandfather system," which will allow athletes who had played in the Mini Games and Pacific Games from 2005 or earlier to compete in New Caledonia in 2011.

Three CNMI junior netters had no problems on eligibility rules for tournaments in Australia and New Zealand, as their impressive performance in Fiji was enough to give them tickets to off-island tournaments.

CNMI coach Jeff Race said Thea Minor, Ji Hoon Heo, and Rafael Jones were invited, anew to join the Pacific Oceania-ITF Touring Team that will complete in New Zealand and Australia.

Thea Minor, who finished third in the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships, will compete in various tournaments in Australia early next year, while Heo and Rafael are headed to New Zealand.

Heo won the boys' 18-and-under title in the POJC, while Jones made it to the Final Four in the boys' 14-and-under division.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Matansa and MP United players, seen here in action in Week 1, failed to play in Week 2 of the NMIFA youth league due to Typhoon Melor.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CPA-Accounting's Jeff Cloud goes for a layup against a phalanx of Bank of Guam defenders. CPA and Bank of Guam played last week in the inter-government/business caging and won separate matches.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Thea Minor and Rafael Jones, seen here at the departure area of the Saipan International Airport last year, are heading to Australia and New Zealand, respectively, to compete in various tournaments.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI's Joshua Manglona, with flag, and Jess Wabol, seen here joining the parade of nations in the opening ceremony of the 2009 Pacific Mini Games in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, returned to Saipan last Monday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Chris Park took the NMASA Male Student Athlete of the Month award (for September) after winning in a tournament in Guam last month.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ji Hoon Heo made it to the Pacific Oceania-ITF Touring Team that will compete in New Zealand early next year.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Rollers 1's Richard Wang challenges the defense of 670 Young Rollers' Savalu Talalemotu during their game in the Rotary caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Typhoon Melor slows down sports action

Several events were cancelled last week due to Typhoon Melor, leaving athletes out of action for a few days. 27

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Padilla, Dodgers beat Cardinals 5-1 for sweep

Unemployed in August and a star for the Los Angeles Dodgers in October. Once Vicente Padilla got out of the first inning, he slammed the door on the St. Louis Cardinals' season. 24

Miller leads semifinalists in Tennis Challenge

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Youth netters Christian Miller and Rafael Jones extended their rivalry in the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenges as they dueled in one of the most exciting matches over the weekend at the American Memorial Park and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.

Miller, who lost to Jones in the quarterfinals in the boys' 14-and-under division of the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji in August, 6-1, 4-6, 6-1, this time got the better of his rival, 8-7.

According to tournament organizer, Peter Loyola, the Miller-Jones showdown was one of those classic matches in the court with neither player willing to give in.

"Christian will hit a good shot and Raffy will have his own. It was anybody's ballgame and it was really good to see these young players going neck and neck in the early round of the tournament," Loyola said.

The close match ended with Miller hitting a down-the-line passing shot, which dropped to Jones' backhand right side, giving the former a 7-5 tiebreak victory in the men's 4.0 division.

Miller and Jones had an early collision, as the latter's original foe pulled out of the tournament in the last minute. Miller then decided to give the tournament a try and made it to the semifinals.

The 13-year-old Miller was playing

See MILLER on Page 26

Christian Miller warms up before his semifinals match against Dodong Espanola in the men's 4.0 singles division of the 2009 Saipan Tennis Challenge yesterday at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rotary games threatened with suspension

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands warned teams in the ongoing 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League that games may be suspended indefinitely if requirements for the annual caging are not met.

These requirements, according to BANMI president Elias Rangamar, include submission of proper documents and entrance fee, and wearing

See ROTARY on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Action in the Rotary caging is in danger of being suspended if teams do not complete the league's requirements.

PSS hands Hyatt first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Public School System ended Hyatt Regency Saipan's streak after eking out a 93-90 victory during their game in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Hyatt was unbeaten in its first five games, but clutch baskets from PSS gave the former its first taste of defeat.

Peter Mendiola and Bobby Coldeen made two free throws apiece and Gyles Ruluked canned a short jumper to improve PSS' record to 6-4.

Hyatt had the lead for the last time, 88-87, after Ray Lizama completed a three-point play, with 1:20 left in the fourth period.

Mendiola was fouled in the ensuing play and calmly sank two charities to give the McGraw-Hill-supported PSS the lead, 89-88, with less than a minute remaining on the clock.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

PSS' Bobby Coldeen tries to keep the ball away from Hyatt Regency Saipan's Dave Sablan during their game in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Hyatt then had successive misses in their next offensive plays with Lizama muffing a

See PSS on Page 26

Special Delivery tops depleted O-No

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Special Delivery capitalized on a depleted O-No crew to pull off a win in their game in the PIC/Miller/Gatorade/Monster-NMIFA 4-Person Co-Ed Beach Volleyball Fall League 2009 on Thursday on the PIC sandcourt.

O-No played without team captain Dan Westphal, Trent Schibe and Jenny Backhaus, leaving Laurie Peterka, Megan Statkus, Cassie Halberson, and Dae Won Jeon the tough task of recording its third straight win.

O-No felt the effect of their manpower shortage early, as Special Delivery clobbered the team in the first set, 21-10. O-No recovered in the second set with a close 21-18 victory, but failed to keep its momentum

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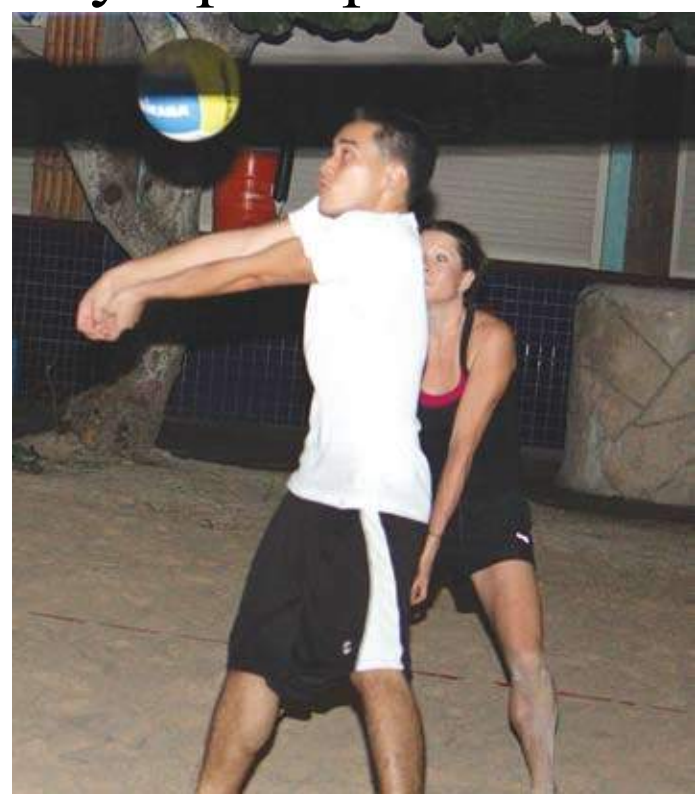

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Heartim Williams, seen here returning the ball to Angamwas during their debut game, plays for Special Delivery, which edged O-No in the NMIFA 4-person beach volleyball league last week on the PIC sandcourt.